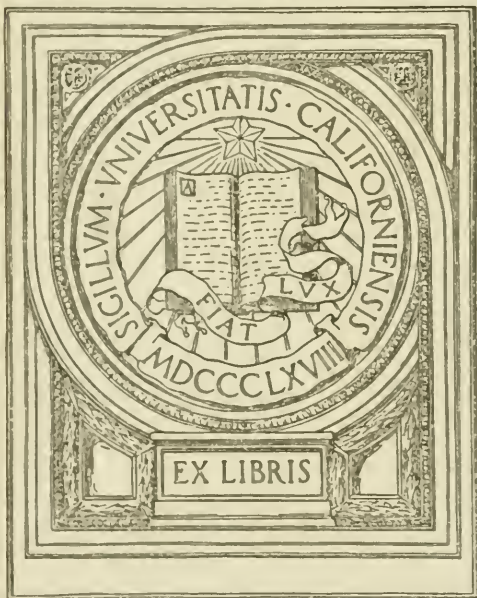


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THE DUKE OF PORTLAND, K.G.,

PRESERVED AT

WELBECK ABBEY.

Vol. VI.

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INTRODUCTION.

THIS volume completes the selection from the Harley family correspondence, belonging to the Duke of Portland, with extracts from letters addressed to the second Earl of Oxford, from the time of his father's death down to 1740. The second Earl lived only until 1741, but there is nothing in the papers which throws any light on the last few years of a life known to have been spent in somewhat unhappy and straitened circumstances.

Following these letters are printed several long accounts of travels in England and, on one occasion, in Scotland, by Lord Oxford, in the years 1723, 1725, &c. A few descriptions of shorter tours will be found also among the papers printed at the beginning of the volume. A full index to the four volumes of Harley papers (including the present one) which have been issued by this Commission, brings the selection to a close.

Of purely historical interest the papers which follow contain very little, but they are rich in matters illustrative of literary history, topography, and antiquities. One document, however, found as an enclosure in a letter (p. 57) of Francis Peck, the well-known antiquary, and bearing the appearance of having lain almost undisturbed between the leaves of that letter since the day of its receipt by Lord Oxford, proved to be of unique value. It is the original proclamation, entirely in Charles I's own hand, "to all my People of whatsoever Nation, Quality, or Condition," dated from Carisbrooke Castle, 18 January, 1647-8.

There are two copies of this Declaration amongst the King's Pamphlets at the British Museum, and they seem to have been printed at different times. One [E. 426 (5)] has a plain title-page, inscribed only "The King's | Declaration | to all his | subjects | of whatsoever Nation, Quality, | or Condition. | Published by His Majesties | speciall command. | Printed in the Yeare 1648." [Thomason has altered the 1648 into 1647 and added "Feb. 8."] The other copy [E. 456 (25)] has a much more elaborate title-page, with the royal arms and crown. The title runs :—"The King's | Majesties | Declaration | from Caribone

brook Castle in the Isle of Wight, to all His loyall | and faithfull Subjects within His Realms and Dominions, | concerning a *Personal Treaty* with His two Houses of Par | liament at *Westminster*; as also, concerning the Scots who | have entred *England*, and His desire to sacrifice all but *Con | science and Honour*, to settle the Peace and Unity of his di | stressed People. *Written with his Majesties own hand, and | signed*, CHARLES REX. Imprinted at London; for G. Wharton, 1648." [Thomason has added "Aug. 3."] The earlier copy is headed "Carisbrook Castle, 18 Jan. 1647. To all my people, of whatsoever Nation, Quality, or Condition," and is signed "Charles R." The later copy omits this, and only heads the Declaration "His Majesties Gracious Declaration to All His loving Subjects of what quality or condition soever. Written by His Majesties own hand at *Carisbrook Castle in the Isle of Wight*."

Mrs. S. C. Lomas, to whom the Commissioners are indebted for the above facts about the printing of this Proclamation, adds that the authenticity of it appears to have been doubted, for on the earlier copy "Supposititious" is written in pencil in a comparatively modern hand. All doubt is, however, put an end to by the discovery of the original, written, as stated in the pamphlet, "with his Majesty's own hand."

For political matters in 1725 the letters (pp. 1-8) of J. Wainwright, a young counsellor in the law, possess some value for the detailed descriptions they give of debates in Parliament, chiefly on Lord Macclesfield's impeachment and the bill for annulling Lord Bolingbroke's attainder. Almost the only other letters in this volume referring to political or electioneering matters are those of Thomas Bacon, member for Cambridge, and George Harben, the non-juror (pp. 24, 41, 44, 47, 48).

In matters of literary interest the original letters of Dean Swift preserved at Welbeck, the large majority of which are here printed for the first time, take the first place. One of these written when on a visit to Pope at Twickenham in 1726 (pp. 15, 16) has a postscript by his host. Other references to Pope will be found in this volume, but the poet's correspondence with Lord Oxford is now all at Longleat, and has been printed at length in Elwyn's edition of his works.

A letter to Dr. Conyers Middleton gives some curious and hitherto unknown facts about Matthew Prior and his family from

enquiries made in his native county of Dorset, and confirms, in many respects, what has already been published about the poet's early life.

Among the minor authors and authoresses whose letters are met with in Lord Oxford's correspondence, and are illustrative, in many cases, of the distressed circumstances in which they worked, may be named—Allan Ramsay, the Scotch poet (p. 9) ; Leonard Welsted and George Jeffreys, dramatists (pp. 17, 27) ; Matthias Earbery (pp. 18, 22) ; Lewis Theobald, on his introduction in 1727 of "an original play of Shakespeare to the town," meaning "The Double Falsehood," the authorship of which he professed to have discovered (p. 20) ; Eliza Haywood, the authoress (p. 21) ; Elizabeth Thomas, remembered as "Corinna," who writes from the Fleet prison ; William Oldisworth (p. 36),—see also regarding him "A. B.'s" letter (p. 35) ;—Eustace Budgell (p. 37) ; and Mary Barber, of Dublin, Swift's friend, and a poetess (p. 38. See also p. 46).

Another group of Lord Oxford's literary friends and correspondents is remembered at the present day chiefly for the more learned character of its pursuits, especially in the domain of early history and antiquities. Some of them, however, have already appeared in the preceding volume of this series in correspondence with him when he was Lord Harley. By many of them Lord Oxford and his father were greatly helped in the formation of their magnificent collection of books and manuscripts now in the British Museum. Prominent amongst these are—Peter Le Neve (p. 18) ; Dr. William Stukeley, who writes on Queen Eleanor's Crosses (p. 23) ; Warburton, Somerset Herald (p. 23), and Anstis, Garter King-at-Arms (pp. 24, 52, 53, 62) ; Dr. Thomas Baker (pp. 25, 26, 38, 44, 52, 63, 64)—an account of his death is given on p. 72 ;—William Oldys (pp. 25, 34, 36, 48, 51, 69, 70, 71) ; Dr. Thomas Tanner, on materials collected by him for his *Notitia Monastica* (pp. 27, 39) ; Patrick Anderson (p. 30) ; Sir Hans Sloane (pp. 30, 40) ; Dr. Conyers Middleton, on incidents at the Cambridge Commencement in July, 1730, and his old enemy Dr. Bentley (pp. 30-31) ; Francis Drake, the York historian (pp. 35, 43, 45, 60) ; Dr. Zachariah Grey (p. 36) ; Dr. John Colbatch, another famous opponent of Dr. Bentley (pp. 37, 39, 40, 42, 56) ; F. Gyles, on alleged robberies of books from the Cambridge University Library and elsewhere, by one

Dr. Nicholls (p. 39) ; Francis Peck (p. 57, enclosing the Charles I proclamation already noticed, also pp. 60, 62) ; William Whiston (p. 67) ; and William Maitland, the historian of London (*ib.*).

Details of the great fire at Ashburnham House in Deans Yard in October, 1731, which destroyed a portion of the Cotton Manuscripts, are given in letters from Benj. Ayerigg, Dr. Mead, and Dr. Freind (pp. 40, 41).

The Accounts of the second Lord Oxford's travels about England and Scotland, which he made in company with his chaplain Thomas and other friends will be found rich in matter of topographical and antiquarian interest ; but it is unnecessary to select any portions of them for special notice here.

CALENDAR OF THE MANUSCRIPTS OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF PORTLAND.

Vol. VI.

HARLEY LETTERS AND PAPERS. VOL. IV.

[J. WAINWRIGHT] to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1725, April 21.—Since my last the Replication of the Committee was brought into the House of Commons, by which they allege his answer to be insufficient and evasive and undertake to make good and prove their articles. The reply should have been carried up to-day, but the Lords did not sit. We are now told that the trial will be appointed for Thursday night and that the fine will be between 20,000*l.* and 30,000*l.* There passed some warm debates between Sergeant Pengelly and the Solicitor General at the committee, the Sergeant being for deferring the proceedings till another session, matters as he urged being not yet ripe, and the Solicitor insisting to reply and proceed immediately upon the impeachment. It is now generally agreed that the King will not go till this trial [of Lord Macclesfield] is over.

They talk of restraining Lord Bolingbroke from a power of disposing of the estate, and making him only tenant for life of it.

[J. WAINWRIGHT] to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Welbeck.

1725, April 26.—Lord Bolingbroke's bill came in to-day. They say he is in Surrey at Arthur Moore's. Brodrick swears he will commit him, if he can catch him where he has power to act as a justice of peace. Mr. H. will give you an account of the debate that was upon the petition for the bill; I had it only at second hand from him.

They are now upon their election at Westminster, where they have his Grace of York's company. The new institution of knights of the Bath fills the town with an expectation of red ribbons. Prince William is to be sovereign. Mr. Walpole to be the first knight. His son and eleven more lords or noblemen are to be of the order and a number of the richest commoners.

Bishop Bradford to be chancellor, and this is to be a seminary for knights of the Garter.

Yesterday there was a debate in the House of Lords, whether M[acclesfield]'s trial should be at their bar or in Westminster Hall. Lord Stafford moved that it might be in the Hall, Lord Lechmere seconded him with great vehemence, insisting that the crimes with which that lord was charged were of such a public nature that they required the most public trial, that all the nation might be present if possible, and either be satisfied of his innocence or the justice done upon his offences. The division was seventeen to fifty odd.

The theme at Westminster was *Honos alit artes*. I suppose the new knights will be the subject of many a copy. I was there but about an hour or two to-day. I have not yet recovered my health enough to venture upon so spirituous an exercise.

Postscript.—There is an advertisement in the “Whitehall Evening Post” of the 24th of April about the new knights, which they say comes from Lord Stanhope.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 2?.—Mr. Reeves has refused to be counsel for the Earl of Macclesfield, which is a great disappointment to him, from which he makes inference that it will not go so well with him as was expected.

A bill is brought, or ordered to be brought, into the House of Lords for divorcing Mr. Annesly's son from his wife for her adultery with one Don Roderigo. The Bishop of Peterborough made the House good sport, he said it was incredible that a Christian woman should lie with a Jew, but being told that Roderigo was a Christian he said O! if it was so then what he had to object to this bill was that the petitioner's wife was an infamous woman before his marriage to her and he took her as such; he was answered by the Bishop of London.

The Bishops, if I am rightly informed, are much divided about Bolingbroke's Bill, and there is a much more general disposition to bring back another exile than him, one who has not acted his part nor acquired his merits. It is believed that the late Bishop of Rochester is leaving France and going to Rome to reside and preside there.

I am told that it was the curiosity of the junior Masters that carried it for having an Act this year at Oxford, and they prevailed by the majority of one vote.

My Lord Townshend declares that it is his Majesty's intention that every foreign Minister shall have a Secretary from among the young gentlemen who are appointed to learn the languages under the King's professors and that every such Secretary shall have a salary of 200*l.* per annum.

There is now some talk of making the Lord Chief Justice King Chancellor with a patent *quam diu se bene gesserit*, but this report does not obtain credit.

The Bishop of Rochester's friends observe that the Earl of Macclesfield's trial begins the very day that his did, the 6th of May. To-morrow will be the day of debate upon Lord Bolingbroke's bill.

The Duke of Bedford and his Lady, the morning after they were married, went away by five o'clock in the coach which they had appointed to wait for them at one of the Park gates, to which they went afoot. The Duke of Bridgewater, at whose house the wedding was, to his great surprise heard the bride and bridegroom were gone. They drove to Woburn, the design of their frolic was to free themselves as soon as possible from government of the father-in-law. The Duchess of M[arlborough] is much pleased with the enterprise of her granddaughter.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Welbeck.]

1725, May 4.—I suppose I need not inform your lordship of the strict order made by the House of Lords for their members to attend at the trial. You will have that from other hands, and whether it will be adhered to or not I am told the trial will take up a fortnight or three weeks

time. We are alarmed with a conclusion of all affairs in dispute between the Emperor and Spain settled between themselves. Yesterday Lord Bolingbroke's bill passed the House of Commons in the committee; Lord Morpeth proposed a clause to make him incapable of sitting in either house, but it was rejected. Mr. Walpole declared to the House that he did not know since he had been in the ministry any instance of Lord Bolingbroke's having betrayed the Pretender as was imputed to him, and said that if he had power enough to get into the ministry, of which some gentlemen were apprehensive, he would have power enough to reverse any bill of Attainder that he thought fit. This day the Bishop of Chester's cause in the case of the Warden of Manchester was determined against him in the King's Bench.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 8.—To the account of the proceedings upon Thursday I have nothing to add but that Dodington likewise opened the charge of those articles I mentioned and the evidence relating to them as second to Sir William Strickland, and upon an expression which dropped from the Earl of Macclesfield to this effect that the gentlemen of the House of Commons seemed to endeavour to bring a witness up to say something, Mr. West fired and said it was an indignity to the Committee, that they were not capable of such endeavours, all they sought for was to bring out the truth. At the close of the same day about five Sergt. Pengelly said it was late and that he believed it might be proper to adjourn, for that they could not go through their evidence upon the several articles which had been opened, and the Committee apprehended that it would be most proper to have that evidence which related to the sale of the Masters' places taken all together. Upon which, at the instance of the Duke of Devonshire, the Committee and Counsel withdrew, and then the Duke represented this expression of the Sergeant as a manner of proceeding not to be endured and tending to prescribe in what method and how far the House should proceed, which they alone were properly the judges of, and in which they were not to be directed by the Commons. Lord Abingdon said he was going to speak to the same effect as the Duke had done and that he concurred with him in opinion; but Lord Townshend being ready to extinguish every flame that may arise in this prosecution said that he believed nobody would imagine that he acted in concert with the Sergeant or rose up in his favour or to join in opinion with him, nor did he justify what he had assumed, but he thought it was not a matter worthy to retard their proceeding and that it being late it was better to adjourn than enter into a dispute. I find though there are managers of the Committee appointed to each article, yet all the Committee examine witnesses and speak as they think proper through the whole course of the proceeding. Yesterday it was Mr. Onslow's and Mr. Palmer's turn to support the articles upon which they went; the first flamed and pleased much, the other having a lower voice did not make so great an impression. The business of the day was an examination into selling the places of the Masters; Bennet and Cottingham were again contradictory, there seemed to be no little spirit and eagerness in the managers against the Earl. Plummer asked some very pertinent questions, and those who observed the disposition of the Lords do not think the House inclined to favour the Earl. He would have had a question asked upon which the House went into a debate, and it was resolved it should not be asked, the question was of no great moment and it depends upon too

many circumstances to be stated in a letter. This day I was in the House and heard the managers Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Hedges, Sir John Rushout and Mr. Sandys. I thought the performance flat enough. Hedges was the best I heard, and whether Rushout or Sandys, those two great patriots, spoke, or rather read, worst I can't tell. I left Tomson going on upon the 19th Article. I suppose with that and the evidence they conclude this day's work.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 10.—The impeachment began about twelve this day. Sir George Oxenden opened part of the articles with many flowers and some sharpness. The Solicitor General opened the rest of the charge and the nature of the crime. Sir William Strickland opened the evidence. They began with the article for taking one hundred guineas for a place which Bennet surrendered to Hamersly. They went into the evidence about it; Bennet and Cottingham flatly contradicted each other upon their oaths, the one *con* the other *pro*, they went into the evidence of the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th articles concerning the places which he sold to the Masters. There was some dispute whether kissing the Book in the Exchequer by a Privy Councillor when the Statute of Richard II. is read is taking an oath. They have adjourned till to-morrow at ten, and sat till five this evening.

Upon Lord Macclesfield asking the officer of the Exchequer whether he heard him repeat the oath and made a doubt whether kissing the Book amounted to an oath, Sergeant Pengelly said he believed his lordship did not think it did by his manner of acting since.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 11.—If things are grossly misrepresented before they reach us from the House of Lords, what must they be by the time they get into Northumberland? The matter of Lord Macclesfield's insisting that he only kissed the Book is not so idle and indiscreet thing as was generally believed. He chiefly urged the informality of taking that which they would construe an oath when the Statute of Richard II. is read, and indeed if it be an oath it is a strange one and administered in an odd manner. Thus much I think myself obliged in justice to say for having been accessory in spreading the ridiculous and injurious construction which common report first put upon that part of the Earl of Macclesfield's defence.

The managers have gone through the articles, the general opinion is that they have fully proved them. Lord Morpeth was very severe and seemed to strike at a greater minister in a parallel which he drew between Lord Bacon and Lord Middlesex. Snell was not sparing upon this occasion, and West in summing up the evidence and observing upon it, added no little force to his natural severity and his attainting spirit. All that presses most has come out from the Masters, they seem to have been willing witnesses, and some very strong circumstances have come out against him upon his own and his counsel's questions.

The Lords adjourned over this day to give him a little respite and he proceeds to-morrow in his defence. I am told he will be soon stopped from urging the example of his predecessors or the judges in other courts, and will not be allowed to enter into that proof.

At present things seem to look ill for him in the unanimous opinion of the House, as a Lord told me. People that are guessing at his punishment talk of a fine between 20,000*l.* and 30,000*l.*, and if there be anything farther, of a temporary sequestration from Parliament for three years, though some are so sanguine as to pretend it will be for life.

Some of the managers that extolled Lord Cowper said nothing of a living predecessor [Harcourt] of the Earl of M., and others had a fling at him. They tell of a story of an old almswoman that followed him to his coach bawling all the way 'God bless you my lord, you brought off Dr. Sacheverell, but I hope you won't bring off the Earl of Macclesfield.' They say he gave her a shilling.

[J. WAINWRIGHT] to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Morpeth.

1725, May 13.—I have not heard with any certainty what passed yesterday. I am told that my Lord's counsel aimed chiefly at the passions of the House, and endeavoured to move them to favour and pity, and I heard Dr. Sayers' speech much commended. One person tells me that the Lords cut Lord Macclesfield off from examining into the conduct of his predecessors, and when he asked a question for that purpose Lord Lechmere asked whether he meant by that to justify or extenuate, to which his counsel replied, both. Another informed me that they had examined a person as to Lord Cowper's taking money for Hamersly's place, but could make nothing of his evidence to prove it: he likewise said that they examined Duppa as to Lord H[arcourt]'s taking money and that something came out there, but these accounts being various I cannot depend upon either.

I am now going into the country for a few days to enjoy the fresh air and the recess of the season.

Postscript.—If your Lordship honours me with any further commands be pleased to direct them to be left at Serle's Coffee-house in Lincoln's Inn.

THOMAS BACON, M.P. for Cambridge, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, May 15. Queen Square.—The trial of the Earl of Macclesfield is not finished, but I thought it my duty to acquaint you what progress had been made. Yesterday the counsel for his Lordship ended his defence, and on Monday his Lordship is to make his speech, and Sergeant Pengelly, with Mr. Lutwich, is to reply on Wednesday. It is generally agreed the managers have fully proved all the articles, except such as relate to facts before the Act of Grace. A spirit of zeal has animated all, but the most remarkable were Messrs. Onslow, Hedges, and Lord Morpeth. The speech of the latter will best appear in print. The defence of Lord Macclesfield has chiefly consisted in endeavouring to alleviate his crimes by strong precedents of some of his predecessors. This night I am told my Lord Chief Justice King has declared at the sittings that he was commanded by his Majesty to accept the seals.

Jon[athan] Wild is found guilty of felony, for advising and assisting to steal a box of lace.

[J. WAINWRIGHT] to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Morpeth.

1725, May 20.—For the Earl of Macclesfield's speech which he made yesterday I refer you to Mr. Harley, with whom I bargained that he should send you an account of that, and that I would go down to Westminster this afternoon and learn what I could of the debate upon Lord

Bolingbroke's bill. Lord Onslow began it with no great weight, Lord Bristol was against it with more force, Lord Lechmere flamed with great vehemence, called him that traitor to his Queen, to his King, and to those to whom he fled for refuge. "Did I not see him do homage upon his knee? Did he not here take the Oaths whilst treachery was in his heart? Has he repented? how, and in what manner? Was it by flying from justice to the protection of the Pretender? and by deserting him when his hopes were defeated with the rebellion. Could any ties, any oaths, hold a mortal that had acted such a part? Could any obligations, any gratitude, bind such a complicated traitor? Could any fidelity be expected from so frequent a betrayer?" Lord Townshend, roused with the warmth of Lord Lechmere, said that he was in a fury; upon this Lord Lechmere flamed farther and the heat increased between them till Montrose called them to order. The Duke of Wharton spoke temperately and very well against the bill, so did the Marquis of Tweeddale and the Earl of Montrose.

For the bill spoke the Bishop of Peterborough [White Kennett] with eminent stupidity. He read a passage out of a sermon preached soon after the Restoration. But what he meant or how he applied it the House were at a loss to know, and were as much tired as if he had been preaching himself; so that the Prince said he wished to God he would have done reading and talking too. The Duke of Argyll and Lord Hay spoke for the Bill and so did Lord Townshend, the Duke of Newcastle and Lord Trevor. Harcourt said not one word in the debate.

The division was 27 *con* and 79 *pro*. The Dukes of Devonshire and Somerset, and Lord Orford, who though ill was brought to the House on this occasion, sat together and voted all against the bill, giving distinguished Noes. The Duke of Bridgewater and his brother the Bishop of Hereford were with the minority, the other bishops were with the Court, though I know some of them declared they would be against the bill if there was any prospect of carrying it, if not they would go out of the House and not vote.

Lest Mr. Harley should be engaged in some visit with his lady and should not write this evening I will just tell you what I hear of Lord M.'s speech. He began decently and properly, insisted it was not criminal to sell offices at common law, showed that the Statute of Richard II. was not applicable to the sale of these offices; that if it was penal to sell them it was only so by the Statute of Edward VI., and that no penalty could be inflicted but what was prescribed by that Statute. In his exordium he spoke without vanity of his merits to the Government and Protestant succession, and with humility as to the recompense he had received, and with zeal for the King and his family. He argued well as to the sale of offices not being criminal by the Statute of Richard II. In his observations upon the evidence that had been given he was prolix, minute and refined, sometimes indiscreet and very trivial. He concluded without excusing himself for any errors or neglects and did not apply to the Lords for a favourable or tender consideration of his case, but referred his innocence to their judgment and justice, and hoped for their acquittal; and then burst out into tears. It is generally thought his fine will not be immoderate and that he will not be sequestered from Parliament. This seems to be the current opinion, if the reply of the managers does not give a turn to the design of bringing him off gently.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 22.—Yesterday the Lords heard the reply to the Earl of Macclesfield's defence. Sergeant Pengelly and Mr. Lutwich both spoke well, the Sergeant much the best. His argument was close, severe and decent. Mr. Lutwich's materials were very good, but not so closely laid together nor so correctly delivered. The Earl behaved himself better than any other day, and his abilities seemed to rise with his accusers'; for he lost no ground this day, though he was more ably attacked than on any other. The matter chiefly contested was whether it was *Malum in se* and an offence at common law to sell offices relating to the administration of justice. It was well argued on both sides. I will not enter into the particulars, but leave them to the printed trial. Some new evidence, but not very material one way or other, was laid before the Lords, who adjourned the consideration of guilty or not guilty till Monday; for that we suppose will be the question as in Dr. Sacheverell's case. Judgment is expected on Tuesday; what that is to be is variously conjectured. I have often sent you variable opinions about it; from all that I have heard I can only draw this one conclusion, that if the fine is great there will be no sequestration from Parliament; if the fine is small there will be a sequestration.

It is now the common opinion that Lord Chief Justice King will soon be Chancellor and that Tracy will succeed him, that Gilbert will go to the Common Pleas and we shall have a new judge, whom I don't hear. Some talked the Attorney General out.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 25.—On Saturday in the Committee upon Lord Bolingbroke's bill, the strength of the debate lay between Lord Lechmere and Lord Trevor, and was chiefly upon the validity of the King's pardon. The Ministry lay by, hoping that the zeal of Lord Lechmere would have induced him to ask the opinion of the judges, but he avoided that, having some notice that they were unanimous against him; so the Ministry proposed that the question might be asked, which was done accordingly this day, and all the judges except Baron Price, who was ill of the gout, gave their opinion without reasons for the validity and legality of the pardon.

Then the Lords considered farther of the Earl of Macclesfield's charge, and came to an unanimous resolution that the Commons had made good their impeachment, but upon the instance of Lord Lechmere a debate again arose whether they should go through articles and vote him guilty or not guilty, as their judgment should be upon each article, or whether they should take them all together and give judgment at once upon the whole. Upon this point there was a division, Lord Trevor being the person who opposed Lechmere as to this and argued it with him, and it was carried by a majority of double the number, that they should give judgment upon all the articles jointly. Another thing under their consideration was whether they should declare his Lordship guilty or not guilty *upon their honour*, and he being a peer it was resolved they should declare *upon their honour*, and that the bishops should declare in like manner. It was also resolved that they should in their robes declare whether guilty or not. This day the Lords declared him guilty, in a full house, of high crimes and misdemeanours charged by the Commons upon him, this was the form upon which they agreed and did not say of *The high crimes* &c. There

was not one contrary vote, even the Bishop of Winchester and the Duke of Devonshire said guilty upon their honour. Judgment is expected to-morrow or Thursday, I will not give you conjectures what that will be, a little time will clear up the various opinions. I will only say in general it is believed if there be not a sequestration from Parliament, the fine will be greater, if there be the fine will be less. The King can hardly go abroad till Wednesday night. The Knights of the Bath will appear in their ribbons upon the Birthday. They say the Parliament will not be up till Monday. Yesterday morning the disposal of the Seals was not resolved on, but a Chancellor we shall have before the King goes. Lord Finch is Controller, Methuen is to be Treasurer of the Household, Lord Lincoln is to be Cofferer, Sir William Strickland master general in Gunley's place, Thomson of York a Commissioner of the revenue of Ireland in his place, Sir George Oxenden a Lord of the Admiralty in Daniel Pulteney's place. Whether Lord Berkeley will be out or not is dubious.

The talk is of Sir Robert Eyre or Mr. Justice Tracy for Chief Baron and of Baron Gilbert for Chief Baron and of Cummins, Morley, or Bridges or Carter, for Jury Judge.

[J. WAINWRIGHT to the EARL OF OXFORD.]

1725, May 27.—Yesterday the Lords fixed the judgment to be given upon their verdict that the Earl of Macclesfield was guilty, when the Ministry, the Duke of Devonshire and Lords Scarbrough, Harcourt, and Trevor, who voted "Plum" with them, showed themselves openly in his defence upon the questions proposed. Lechmere opposed with great ability and laid about him furiously too, but the Duke of Argyll shone with a superior spirit to any in the House and made two speeches upon the first and second questions so highly applauded that everybody wanted words to express their approbation; they had all the life and elegance that his person and address could give them and all the strength and propriety of the most consummate judgment. Lord Scarbrough first proposed that they should consider of the fine what it should be; Lechmere said that was irregular, the first consideration should be what his punishment should be and whether he should be fined at all. The first question was whether he should be made incapable of any office or employment under his Majesty, the division upon it was 42 against 42, so that he escaped upon this question by the equality. The second question was whether he should keep his seat in Parliament, upon this there was a majority of about five or seven in his favour. The Bishops were all for him except Peterborough, who voted against him upon the second question, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Winchester spoke for him. The third question was proposed by Lord Townshend, who proposed that his fine should be 30,000*l*. Upon this there was no debate or contest; then Lord Townshend said he thought it was of course to add that the unfortunate Earl should be committed till he paid his fine, upon which Lord Lechmere said he thought though it was of course to make such an order, there should be an amendment to what that Lord proposed, the word "unfortunate" should not be made use of, for in his conscience he thought the Earl the most fortunate man that day in the House.

Hi motus animarum atque hac certamina tanta

Pulveris exigui jacta composita quiescunt.

I am told the managers and those who voted against the Earl seemed to be much more displeased with the judgment than they who carried the questions for him were pleased with their success.

THOMAS BACON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, June 10. Queen Square.—No news here but the installation of the Knights of the Bath, which will be this day sevensnight, if matters can be settled. They are to walk from the Prince's Chamber through the two Palace Yards, King Street, the Sanctuary into Westminster Abbey at the west gate, where they are to offer their swords in the Chapel of Henry Seventh, dine in the Court of Requests all in a line, the ladies in a gallery on the opposite side to be viewed by their new champions, at night a ball in Heidegger's palace.

ALLAN RAMSAY to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, June 21. Edinburgh.—After your Lordship has seen our mountains and knows our country I have some reason to hope that the enclosed "Pastoral Comedie" may contribute to your diversions. In gratitude to your Lordship's honouring me with your notice in this place I shall court every opportunity to show how much I am, &c.

Postscript.—The Tale of "Mess John and the Miller's wife" shall wait on your Lordship in a few days.

FRANCIS BISHOP OF CHESTER to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1725, October 19.—Congratulating him on the birth of a son.

THE EARL OF STRAFFORD to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, October 22. Stainborough.—My Lady and your Lordship do me too much honour in asking me to be godfather to Lord Harley. I am only sorry that my distance will hinder me from performing my duty in person, but if you will be pleased to pitch on any one to stand for me it will add to the obligation.

I will order a gentleman to call at your Lordship's house to know who you have pitched on to stand, and the day the ceremony is to be performed, that though absent I may rejoice and celebrate the day.

ANNE COUNTESS OF STRAFFORD to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, October 22. Freston Hall [Suffolk].—Congratulations on the birth of Lord Harley.

THE MARQUIS OF CARMARTHEN to his brother-in-law,
the EARL OF OXFORD.

1725, October 22nd. Woolley near Wakefield.—Like congratulations.

ANNE, COUNTESS OF SALISBURY, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, October 23. Fonthill.—Like congratulations.

R[ICHARD] WITTON to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1725, October 23. Wakefield.—Mr. Thoresby, the great Leeds antiquary, being lately dead, his museum, books, and manuscripts will shortly be disposed of, and some of my friends are like to be chiefly concerned therein. I have heard from very good judges that his collection of coins is very complete and valuable, and his medals very good, an

account of which he has published in his book called "Ducatus Leodiensis." If there be anything amongst them which you desire, I will endeavour upon notice to procure it for you.

I must acknowledge the favour of having a very good buck out of your park, by virtue of the warrant you was pleased to give me. When I had the honour to wait upon you at Wakefield, I was in hopes to have had the Marquis of Carmarthen's company at eating part of it, but though I was not so happy as that, yet I had Sir John Bland, Mr. Stapleton, and some other of your father's old friends, by whom both you and your Lady were most kindly remembered.

In pursuance of what was agreed when I saw your Lordship I ordered my mother's tenant at Brunton to give your surveyor the very best entertainment his house could afford, and show him all the lands he was in possession of, as well those not claimed by your Lordship as what you claim.

Our tenant informs me that he observed my orders in both respects, and that your surveyor viewed and surveyed every close he enjoys. Since which I have never heard either from your Lordship or Mr. Morley. But our tenant has been put into a very great fright, by Mr. Gowland's threatening forthwith to let the greatest part of his farm to the best bidder. I am well assured he has had no such orders from your Lordship, but when an attorney presumes to make use of so great a name to a poor countryman it gives great terror. My mother's grandfather, Edward Lawson, had the honour to marry Mabel the youngest daughter of Sir Reginald Carnaby, whose eldest daughter Catherine was married to the Lord Ogle, and the second daughter Ursula to one of the Witheringtons. This appears by a pedigree drawn up by Sir William Dugdale now before me, whereby I have the honour of some distant relation to your most honourable and excellent Lady, to whom I will refer the matter in question entirely on my side, if your Lordship will venture to do the same on yours, and thereby I doubt not but our little dispute may be most justly and equitably determined, without the help of either lawyer or attorney. I intend, God willing, to be in London about the middle of January, and then shall confirm this submission in proper person.

GEORGE HARBIN to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725, October 30.—Condolences on his Lordship's great loss (of his son). Bemoans his misfortune in having fallen by some unhappy accident under Lord Oxford's displeasure, as the annuity upon which he is entirely dependent is more than ten months in arrear. But for the assistance of friends he would have been forced to stand the clamours and reproaches of creditors, a state not consistent with that quiet and repose which have always been the object of the writer's wishes.

[*Endorsed by Lord Oxford: —Mr. Harbin—condol[ences].—Annuity arrears, paid immediately.*]

EDWARD HARLEY to the EARL OF OXFORD at Down Hall, Harlow.

1725-26, February 1. London.—It is said there that Mr. P. Walters is to be married to the Duchess Dowager of Rutland, but whether there is any ground for this I will not pretend to say.

The Stocks are still in a drooping condition, but would soon revive if the report of a revolution in Spain should prove true; this the town

has been amused with these two days. Lord Peterborough, in a debate upon the Treaty, in his usual manner said that it was very well that since the Emperor was now become so dreadful that he was not master of Spain which he had once conquered for him, and it was very happy that they afterwards sent a General thither to lose it again.

I was last night at a concert of Church music, which was performed with great exactness by ten instruments and two voices. Though I am a great lover of music yet cannot pretend to have any skill, but must think there is something in sacred music which elevates the soul and helps to advance it to pleasures far greater than what can arise from anything within the sphere of mortality. I did once take the liberty of mentioning this to my excellent Lady, who was pleased to allow me to say she would encourage it. I took the liberty of mentioning to your Lordship that it might be performed in Marybone Chapel, but this must be entirely submitted to the pleasure of my Lady and your Lordship.

THOMAS RADFORD, Master Cutler of Sheffield, to the EARL OF OXFORD.

[1725-6, February 18, *Received*.] Sheffield.—The Cutlers here incorporated and others amongst us exporting annually 60.000*l.* worth and upwards, besides making the double quantity of iron manufactures, have before attempted to get an Act of Parliament to make the river Dunn (Don) navigable up to Sheffield or as near as conveniently may be, and we should be wanting to ourselves and the public if we should not continue our utmost application to bring the navigation about, with just regard to every one's right and property.

The Corporation propose this session to petition the House of Commons for leave to bring in a bill to enable them to bring the navigation from Doncaster to the farthest part of Tinsley westward: and your Lordship is beseeched to be a favourer of this bill if you shall judge it reasonable.

SALE OF PICTURES.

1725-26. February 19. A printed broadside of two pages, with large illustration, headed :—“A collection of fine pictures, brought from abroad by Mr. Andrew Hay, will be sold by auction, at Mr. Cock's New Auction Room in Poland Street, the corner of Broad Street near Golden-Square, on Saturday the 19th of this inst. February, 1725-6. The pictures may be view'd on Wednesday the 16th. and every day after till the hour of sale, which will begin at 11 o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

“Catalogues to be had at the place of sale, and at Mr. Hay's in Monmouth Court near Suffolk Street.”

The price fetched by each picture, and the name of its purchaser, are added in manuscript, as follows :—

“PICTURES.

£	s.	d.	No.	
2	2	0	1	A Landskip with Figures in water colours, by Patel. —Mr. Phillips.
2	5	0	2	Its Companion. —Mr. Wootton.
2	15	0	3	The Virgin with our Saviour, by Signior Calendrucci. Coll. Rowls.
3	0	0	4	Venus, by Signior Berettoni. —Coll. Rowls.
4	4	0	5	A Madona with a sleeping Christ, after Guido. —Mr. Liddal.

PICTURES—*cont.*

£	s.	d.	No.	
15	15	0	6	A Landskip with Figures, by Gio. Francesco Bolognese.—Mr. Liddal.
2	17	6	7	Nymphs and Satyrs, by Vandereable.—Coll. Rowls.
1	10	0	8	Its Companion.—Coll. Rowls.
18	18	0	9	A View of Florence, by Gaspar de L'ochiale. Lord Burlington.
11	0	6	10	St. John preaching in the Wilderness, by Francesco Mola.—Mr. Sneed.
11	0	6	11	Andromeda, by Michael Rock detto il Parmegianino.—Mr. Scarlet.
3	10	0	12	The Flight into Egypt, by Francesco Miele.
10	15	0	13	A Landskip with Figures, by Nicola Poussin.—Mr. Sneed.
10	10	0	14	Its Companion, by Hermando.—Dr. Kennady.
23	0	0	15	A Conversation of Comedians, by Paterr.—Mr. Arnold.
5	15	0	16	The Genius of Poetry, introducing Monsr. Moliere to Monsr. Lully.—Lord Burlington.
11	5	0	17	Diana and Calista.—Mr. Hadly.
12	12	0	18	The Offering of the three Kings, by Cazze.—Mr. Sneed.
6	6	0	19	Pan and Syrinx, by Francisque.
11	6	6	20	Its Companion, being Cephalus and Procris.—Mr. Wootton.
11	11	0	21	Lot and his Daughters, by Marc Antonio Franceschini.—Lord Herbert.
5	5	0	22	The Goddess Vesta, by Cazze.—Mr. Scarlet.
18	18	0	23	A large Landskip with figures, by Suanvelt.—Lord Malpas.
15	4	6	24	Its Companion.—Mr. Nelthorp.
7	12	0	25	A Musical Conversation with Grotesque Ornaments, by Lancret.—Mr. Sneed.
21	5	0	26	The Cascade of Tivoli, by Gaspar Poussin.—Mr. Lock.
11	11	0	27	Our Saviour painted on copper, by Carlo Maratti.—Duke Bridgewater.
11	11	0	28	The Virgin Mary, by Carlo Maratti.—Duke Bridgewater.
16	5	6	29	Adam and Eve in Paradise, by Roland Savery.—Mr. Hugh Howard.
10	15	0	30	Apollo and Daphne, by Francesco Miele.—Mr. Asgal.
32	11	0	31	The Flight into Egypt, with a Landskip and Ruins, by old Patel.—Sir Robert Walpole.
15	15	0	32	Saint Cecilia, by Trevisani.—Mr. Lock.
22	0	0	33	Its Companion, being Saint Catharine.—Duke Devonshire.
31	10	0	34	Diogenes throwing away his Dish, by Le Mere.—Lord Burlington.
6	6	0	35	Our Saviour at Supper with Joseph and his Mother, by Callot.—Mr. Sneed.
25	5	0	36	A Basso-Relievo with Ruins and Figures, by Ferguson and Vandereable.—Sir Robt. Sutton.

PICTURES—*cont.*

£	s.	d.	No.	
11	11	0	37	Innocent the Tenth, by Don Diego Valasquez. —Sir Robt. Walpole.
17	6	0	38	Architecture and a Landskip by old Patel.—Lord Malpas.
17	17	0	39	Hagar and Ishmael, by Gio. Francesco Bolognese. —Lord Malpas.
13	18	0	40	A Landskip and Figures, by Suanvelt.—Dr. Kennady.
12	1	6	41	Herodias, &c. on copper, by Rubens.—Mr. Gibbs.
36	15	0	42	Saint Catharine, by Morillos.—Mr. Phillips.
39	18	0	43	A large Landskip with Figures, by Gaspar Poussin.—Mr. Waller.
35	14	0	44	Its Companion.—Lord James Cavendish.
18	7	6	45	A piece of Architecture with Figures, by Gio. Paulo Panini.—Mr. Sneed.
24	10	0	46	Its Companion.—Mr. Hadly.
38	17	0	47	Angelica and Medora by Romanelli.—Duke Bridgewater.
3	13	6	48	An old Spanish Portrait.—Mr. Right.
37	16	0	49	A Landskip with Figures, by Sebastian Bourdon. —Lord Herbert.
12	0	0	50	Our Saviour with Joseph and Mary, by Cornelius Poelenburch.—Sir Robt. Walpole.
21	10	6	51	A small Round Landskip on copper, by Gaspar Poussin.—Mr. Hugh Howard.
23	12	6	52	Its Companion.—Ditto.
18	18	0	53	A Battle, by Gio. Cortesi Borgognione.—Lord Malpas.
20	0	0	54	The Flight into Egypt, by Cornelius Poelenburch. Duke Devonshire.
40	0	0	55	The Triumphal Arch of Constantine, by Jo. Paulo Panini.—Lord Burlington.
30	0	0	56	Its Companion, being a View of the Colosseo.—Duke Devonshire.
63	0	0	57	A Landskip with Figures, by Gaspar Poussin.—Sir Robt. Fumis.
19	19	0	58	Its Companion, by Nicola Poussin.—Mr. Hadly.
44	2	0	59	The Virgin with our Saviour, St. Catharine, &c., by Lorenzo Passinelli.—Lord Pitts Williams (<i>sic</i>).
12	12	0	60	A Basso-Relievo with the History of Medea, by Ferguson and Vandercable.—Mr. Fairfax.
18	7	6	61	Its Companion.—Lord Herbert.
44	2	0	62	Hercules and Omphale with Nymphs, &c., by Romanelli.—Sir Robt. Walpole.
26	0	0	63	The Virgin Mary, by Francesco Trevesani.—Lord Burlington.
31	0	0	64	The Adoration of the Shepherds, by Gio. Jordans. —Mr. Slaughter Bacon.
41	9	6	65	A Landskip with Figures, by Francesco Miele.—Lord Malpas.
31	10	0	66	The four Elements, by Gio. Benedetto Castiglione. —Lord Herbert.
80	0	0	67	A large Landskip with Figures, by Gaspar Poussin. —Lord Malpas.

PICTURES—*cont.*

£	s.	d.	No.			
28	7	0	68	The Spring	by Philippo Lauro. { Mr. Mattason. do. do. do.	
42	10	6	69	„ Summer		
18	18	0	70	„ Harvest		
16	4	0	71	„ Winter		
89	5	0	72	The Virgin with our Saviour, and St. Joseph, by Bartolomeo Schidoni.—Mr. Slaughter Bacon.		
215	0	0	73	A large Picture representing Abraham, Hagar, and Sarah, by Pietro Berettini da Cortona.—Sir Robt. Walpole.		
18	10	0	74	An entire Collection of the late King of France his Medals in Copper.—Mr Barker.		
				The Temptation of St. Anthony by Teneires was put up and sold for £16 16s. 0 <i>d.</i> —Lord Malpas.”		

[This is added in manuscript.]

[THE EARL OF OXFORD TO ALEXANDER POPE.]

1725-26, March 11. Down Hall.—I was extremely glad to see your hand writing upon the outside of a letter, but when I opened it I had double pleasure in having a letter from you of some length, being in great hopes you are better in your health by that circumstance, for though I had rather converse with you than any man living yet I would not purchase it so dear a rate as that it should put you to any pain. I congratulate you that you are come so near an end of your great work as to be upon the Preface. I believe you will have more quiet and ease now that load is off your shoulders. I do not know anybody that is so able in all respects to give an account of themselves as you are, all that I suspect is that as other writers say too much for and of themselves you will go to the other extreme and say too little, you cannot say too much. The letter you mention to have wrote to me about three weeks ago I never received. I regret the loss of it very much as I do anything that comes from you.

My Bowling green is near finished. I have planted trees round my spring. I have fallen my wood, that is the underwood which does not look so ill as I suspected and was afraid it would, it will be the finer for it in a little while.

Since I saw you I found among some papers I was sorting, which were my father's, your translation of one of Dr. Donne's Satires. I think I did mention to you that I had formerly seen it, and you expressed a desire to see it again, I will send it to you when and where you please. I do not care to trust it by the post because he lost your letter to me. I live in hopes we shall this year have a summer, and one great motive for my wishing one is that I may enjoy your company both at Wimpole and this place. I hope Mrs. Pope is well. please to be so kind as to make my compliments to her.—*C. opp.*

JOS [EPH] GOUPY TO [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725-26, March 17.—Mr. Hedges being appointed Envoy to the King of Sardinia has desired me to go with him, and I have accepted the favour as a journey that may prove to my advantage. Knowing your Lordship's goodness and consideration emboldens me to entreat for the ninety nine pounds remaining on the pictures. The Titian I

have so far advanced as to want but few days' work, but have not been able to come at the original since his Grace's marriage; but shall finish it at my return, which will be in six months.

Postscript.—If your Lordship will be so good as to honour me with a line next door to the sign of the Tower in New Bond Street.

THOMAS BACON to HUMPHREY WANLEY, at the Earl of Oxford's
in Dover Street.

1725-26, March 24. Blue Posts, near Lincoln's Inn.—I am just come from the Auction, where I bought for my Lord the five volumes of Hollar for 97*l.* 13*s.*, and Lucian 42*l.*, which has a scholiast in it; and also the Missal cost 31*l.* 10*s.* Horace went for fifteen guineas, which I thought I might lose for I had a commission but for ten, and Horace's picture is ill drawn and not like the cuts we have.

DR. D[AVID] WILKINS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1725-26, March 24. Christ Church, Canterbury.—Being informed that there is a copy of Prideaux's "Marmora Oxoniensia," corrected by Dr. Thomas Smith, in your Lordship's library, I entreat leave to peruse it, that my new edition of that book may be the more exact, that being my present design now Selden is out of my hands.

JOS[EPH] GOUPEY to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726, March 26.—Sends his bills before his departure abroad, for copying pictures, &c., as follows:—

The Holy Family, after Poussin	-	-	-	52 <i>l.</i>	10	0
Galatea, after Luca Gordano	-	-	-	31 <i>l.</i>	10	0
Bellisario, after Vandyke	-	-	-	52 <i>l.</i>	10	0
Angelie and Medor, for a case	-	-	-	10 <i>l.</i>	10	0
A woman sleeping and two Satyrs	-	-	-	6 <i>l.</i>	6	0
11 receipts of Salvator Rosa's and 4 (setts ?)	-	-	-	7 <i>l.</i>	17	6

161*l.* 3 6

Received sixty guineas.

I don't expect to find such true honour and distinguished worth from the nobility abroad as there is in your Lordship. My friends in England are so good that I shall ever retain the uneasiness of the needle till I return to this point.

JONATHAN SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Dover Street.

1726, July 3rd. Twickenham.—Mr. Pope by writing first hath limited me to what space you see. He prescribes all our visits without our knowledge, and Mr. Gay and I find ourselves often engaged for three or four days to come, and we neither of us dare dispute his pleasure. Accordingly this morning we go to Lord Bathurst, on Tuesday company is to dine here. However I will certainly attend your Lordship towards the end of the week. It is too true to my sorrow, that I have not many weeks to stay in England, and besides I have some business that will keep me several days in my journey. I confess I squandered away these four months, as people do their lives.

in neglecting their chief business, which in me was to see and discourse with your Lordship as often as I could, wherein however I am not so faulty as unfortunate.

At foot of this is written by Pope :—

“ Indeed you are very unreasonable. I never knew you so before. You say you will quarrel with me if I keep the Dean here and let nobody see him. Pray what hinders you ? *Here we are to be seen* is the motto over my house, but it is so written that none but such as are worthy and enlightened can understand it. Pray show that you do any day after Thursday.”

JONATHAN SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD, in Dover Street.

1726, July 18th. Twickenham.—I have taken some time to think of what I was saying to your Lordship, relating to my Lord your father's papers. My stay in England will be now so short, and the work of looking into these papers so long, that (being engaged in some little affairs of my own) it will be impossible that the time remaining will suffice. What I could wish is that Mr. Thomas and his brother would be at the pains of separating those papers which were written since that great change of ministry and the steps preceding to it, from those others which refer only to the time when my Lord was Secretary of State, and if your Lordship would trust them with me in Ireland, I would engage either to bring them back myself, or in case of accidents, to send them by such a sure hand as yourself shall approve of.

Your Lordship will please to consider this proposal, and when I come to town, I will do myself the honour to discourse with you further upon it.

Postscript.—Since you go out of town the end of this week, Mr. Pope hopes you will please to remember your promise by the beginning of the next, to see him here.

HENRY GREY to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726, July 15. Billingbeare near Ockingham, Berks.—Mr. Morley having signified to me your desire of seeing some papers and letters in the possession of my family, I send you a few letters from the Duke of Tuscany who was pleased to honour my great uncle Harry Neville with his correspondence. I have also sent the original book of Sir Harry Neville's letters during his embassy in France, that you may see Mr. Sawyer, who has printed them with Sir Ralph Winwood's, has done them faithfully.

I sincerely wish the few papers I have sent may entertain you. As fast as the disorder my library is in will permit me I will not fail transmitting you more of them.

THOMAS BACON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726, July 22. Catley.—As soon as I heard of the death of Mr. Wanley I wished the bearer hereof, Mr. Andrew Matte, to succeed him in your service. Mr. Bridges always gave him the character of a very sober, diligent, and ingenious amanuensis and library keeper, and in confirmation of it left him a handsome annuity. As for his learning he has never made it his profession, but I believe he has enough for a librarian, and as for skill in manuscripts I know not how far he has improved under Bridges, but you must never expect to find one equal to Wanley.

DR. SAMUEL KNIGHT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726, August 5. Bluntisham, near St. Ives.—About the return of a manuscript borrowed from Lord Oxford by a Mr. Sparks, who was so far beside himself as to be placed in confinement at Grantham. Knows only one person who comes near to Humphrey Wanley in skill and diligence, but having a family and profession he is not at liberty to engage himself unless for a month or two when he has most leisure; he has lately been arranging manuscripts at Eton and Windsor, where they would have retained him with a very handsome allowance. His name is Martyn (*sic*, Martin of Palgrave?) and he lives near Diss.

JAMES SYKES to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726, October 19. Lincoln's Inn Fields.—Is ordered by his father's executors to apply for fifteen guineas, due for a picture of Chaucer. Has also pictures of Ben Jonson, Shakespeare and Milton, which he desires to give his Lordship the refusal of. [*Receipt annexed.*]

LEONARD WELSTED to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726, December 1. Tower.—Be pleased to excuse forms of respect for once, and give me leave to remind you of what the poor sailor, under condemnation, wrote to King Charles the Second, in, that if his Majesty did not look out sharp for him, he should certainly be hanged; I am, my Lord, *mutatis mutandis*, exactly in the same circumstances with this unfortunate mariner, that is, my fame, fortune, all goes to pot if you do not critically interpose at this time. My comedy is now in rehearsal, and will be acted in a fortnight at furthest from the date of this letter; I will therefore humbly request your Lordship, if you do not come immediately to town, when next you write to my Lady, to obtain permission for me to leave some tickets with her; your Lordship sees the distress I am in; no matter, my Lord, how merry my play may be, I am sure to be very mournful unless you are so generous as to prevent the catastrophe I am apprehensive of. In one word, I will trust in your Lordship's goodness for forgiving this trouble, and humbly hope you will be so kind as to put an end soon to all my poetical terrors, by imitating in this particular the good humoured monarch I mentioned in the beginning of my epistle; he saved a good seaman in his extreme trouble. Your Lordship may save a poet, if not so good in his way, yet at least in equal peril. Good my Lord, be pleased to consider of this very weighty affair, for I think, on my soul, that your Lordship would be much concerned should you not be able, with a good conscience, to wish me a Merry Christmas.

LEONARD WELSTED to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1726-27, March 17. Tower.—A play will be acted very soon for my benefit, my own comedy being deferred till next season at my own desire, and by the advice of all my friends; and I am in hopes your own affairs may bring you here in time to see it, and when I shall have the honour to lay before you the state of my little concerns.

Your Lordship as I hear is now at the seat of the Muses, and do not think it beneath you to honour with your residence a place, late the mansion of a very great poet blest with your favour and patronage, and I own I am encouraged from this very circumstance, among many others, to hope that your Lordship will not be forgetful even of me.

PETER LE NEVE to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727, April 2. Bow.—Recommending the bearer, Thomas Allen, as an amanuensis; he understands Greek and Latin well, can read any old deeds, Latin, English, and French, with the Saxon, all well enough to abbreviate them; and is I think qualified to serve you in Mr. Wanley's room. He lives at present with John Thorp, doctor of physic at Rochester.

JONATH [AN] SWIFT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727, May 13. Whitchall.—Mr. Pope's mother hath been so much out of order for about a fortnight past, and still continues so weak, that he cannot yet think of being absent from her. I am just going down with Doctor Arbuthnot to Twickenham, and from thence shall be able to give your Lordship a better account what time we can appoint to attend you.

Here are every day new scribbles coming out full of the meanest and most stupid scurrility against those who have dared to glance at the ministry, by which proceeding I apprehend those in power have acted in a manner that may not be to their advantage, their credit, or their ease, but I am none of their counsellors. It is said they pay well, but are a little unlucky in the choice of their advocates, whether by want of judgment, a failure of genius in the nation, or the sterility of other arguments in the cause than what are to be gathered among the shoe-boys.

I wish your Lordship health and satisfaction in the country, and remain with great respect, &c.

JONATH [AN] SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1727, May 18. Twickenham.—I had this morning the honour of a letter from yourself to invite me to Wimpole, which having read to Mr. Pope, he pressed me to entreat your Lordship to excuse me, because Mrs. Pope is recovering, and he is determined to accompany me to your Lordship's as soon as his mother is quite out of danger, and he is so kind to add that it would be uneasy to him to be left alone during her indisposition, which altogether confines him at present. Your Lordship will therefore please to leave us to shift for ourselves, and we will find some means of waiting on you together, with the first opportunity, or we will give notice to my Lady Oxford, as soon as we are able.

THE REV. MATTHIAS EARBERRY to the EARL OF OXFORD,
at Down Hall.

1727, July 22.—I was very much surprised that my design of showing respect to your Lordship should have a contrary event; and to be threatened by your steward with indignation, when I expected nothing like it from that gentleman three days after I gave the book into Mr. Thomas's hands, when he gave me all manner of encouragement.

The dedications were printed off, and the book published; whereas if he had sent word the very day he had your Lordship's answer, the dedication had been quashed without noise and a little charge.

I am very willing to receive your Lordship's determination as to this affair. From yourself a public advertisement to quash it is the only method, and is as bad as the inconvenience to be cured. I should be very unwilling to publish to the world what will seem to them a slight to me and a slur upon my honour; though it is in itself no more than an unhappy mistake, and I had rather the world had ascribed to me the honour of being your Lordship's friend than to appear unworthy of the countenance of a dedication.

Postscript.—Your Lordship's commands will come to me directed to Bulmore's Coffee House, King Street, Bloomsbury.

[Annexed to this letter is draft of a reply, dated August, 1727, requiring Mr. Earbery to retract by public advertisement (after a form enclosed) "Your pretended Dedication of the Translation of Dr. Burnet's book 'De Statu Mortuorum,' &c., to which you have presumed to prefix his name without his leave or knowledge—otherwise his Lordship will be obliged to take proper methods for vindicating his own honour from so notorious an insult."]

SIR THOMAS WENTWORTH to [the EARL OF OXFORD?].

1727, August 7. Wentworth House.—A great many of the nobility and gentry of Yorkshire having joined myself and Mr. Turner as candidates at the ensuing election for this county, I beg we may have the favour of being supported by your interest.

THE EARL OF SUSSEX to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727, August 18.—I have not yet made my Lady Dowager Oxford's excuse to the King for not attending at the Coronation, so I shall send her the summons. I hope to be able to get a good place in the Abbey for Lady Margaret Harley, though till the scaffolds are built I can't yet tell whereabouts it will be.

JONATH[AN] SWIFT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727, November 17. Dublin.—I deferred acknowledging the honour of your Lordship's letter till I could do it by Mr. Clayton, and at the same time obey your commands of sending you the book of the Arundel marbles: the value of it consists only in the great number of amendments which were made by Doctor Mills, who it seems was very famous in that kind of literature, and I hope it will be of good use to the gentleman who undertakes the new edition.

I must now return my most humble thanks for your Lordship's great favours and civilities to me while I was last in England. My haste hither was occasioned merely by the despair of being under so long a disorder of giddiness and especially deafness, which made me as uneasy to my friends as to myself, and I think whoever is deaf is fit for nothing but a cloister. God be thanked my journey relieved me from both disorders, and here I am with very little use for my ears.

I cannot find there are any old Irish coins, at least not of any great antiquity, but long since the conquest by Henry II. The coins found here underground are generally of the Saxon kings, or some of the later Emperors. I shall see what can be done about an affair which Mr. Clayton hath begun, relating to the late Bishop Nicholson's papers. As to letters from learned men to him, I cannot hope much. He sent me one of his books, which contained a catalogue of writings proper for one

who would write a history of Ireland, wherein I found he took many things very weakly upon trust, and referred the reader to papers which I found to contain nothing at all of the matter he mentions. I shall, by the help of some clergymen in the neighbourhood of the Bishop's son, learn as much as I can about his father's papers, and, if they be of any use, purchase them.

LEW [IS] THEOBALD to the COUNTESS OF OXFORD.

1727, December 10. Wyan's Court in Great Russell St.—As I have the good fortune to introduce an original play of Shakespeare to the town, it would have been greatly my happiness to have had the honour of approaching the Countess of Oxford. Your Ladyship is so great a patroness, and you have so commanding an interest, that all other solicitations would have been superfluous. Yet unknown as I am, Madam, I cannot but esteem it my duty to beg the influence of your Ladyship's recommendation. I have presumed to inclose twelve box tickets for my benefit, which will be received on the 3rd, 6th or 9th night of the play being acted. The best title I have to flatter myself that your Ladyship will disperse them for me is from your known goodness; from which too I can only hope pardon for the liberty of this address and the presumption of subscribing myself, &c.

Postscript.—If your Honour has any mind to read the play in manuscript, upon the earliest intimation of your pleasure you shall command it.

THOMAS BACON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727-28, January 10. Cambridge.—Yesterday the Corporation of Cambridge did themselves the honour to choose unanimously your Lordship their High Steward.

GEORGE HARBIN to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1727-28, January 29.—If you will be pleased to bestow upon me a few tickets for my Lord Danby's play I shall have the honour of obliging some ladies of quality with them. It may not perhaps seem very proper for me to be thus forward in promoting their going to the Playhouse, especially when there is so much danger of their falling in love with the actors. But since they are desirous to trust themselves I must leave them to make as handsome a defence as they can.

DAVID LYON to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1728, February 18. Paris.—Sends a description of a large collection of prints, antiquities, heads of great men, and maps, in seventy-eight volumes large folio, for which 420*l.* will be accepted by the owner.

[A copy of Lord Oxford's letter, dated February 8, 1727-28, relating thereto is annexed.]

SIR JOHN EVELYN to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727-28, March 15. Duke Street, Westminster.—Not knowing when I shall have the good fortune to find you at home I acquaint you that I have brought my collection of Hollar's prints hither, where you may see them any evening that you are at leisure, the business of the Custom House not permitting me to propose any morning sooner than Monday se'nnight.

THOMAS BASTON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1727-28, March 16.—Your noble father was a great and generous patron of mine and got me 250 subscriptions of members of the House of Commons, when he was Speaker, for a print of one drawing. There is hardly any person has my works except Princes, especially the late Queen Anne, and Prince George of Denmark, who almost filled a closet with my drawings. For the three pieces you ordered me to set a price upon I ask a less price than I formerly had for one, which is thirty guineas. It takes up a great deal of time to perform things of this nature.

THE SAME to [the SAME].

1728, April 2.—I am near seventy years of age, the drawings I offer you are the best that ever I did, and I believe in their kind have never been exceeded and perhaps never will. I am now past doing such works, and brought to the utmost poverty and distress. If your Lordship relieves me so far as you think they may deserve, it will be one of those acts of generosity and charity which you are so justly famed for.

THE EARL OF OXFORD to the EARL OF POMFRET.

1728, April 12.—The person who will have the honour to present this to your Lordship is Mr. Lens, whom with your leave I have employed to copy the historical picture relating to the history of Mary Queen of Scots. All the care possible shall be taken of the picture as well as all the dispatch made. *Draft.*

THE EARL OF POMFRET to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728, April 12. Hanover Square.—'Tis a great pleasure to me that anything I have can be in the least agreeable to your Lordship. I have desired Mr. Lens to follow your orders in whatever you are pleased to command as to the picture.

SAMUEL PALMER to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1728, April 15. Bartholomew Close.—Acknowledging the kind invitation to Wimpole to peruse Mr. Bagford's papers. His History of Printing is now the only plank which must convey him to the hospitable shore of the good and the great, after the shipwreck of his fortune by a statute of bankruptcy. Has just received a friendly token of generosity from the Earl of Pembroke towards carrying on the work, and Lord Oxford's great skill and curiosity in a work of this nature have encouraged him to wait upon his Lordship to show him a great part of the copy.

ELIZA HAYWOOD to the COUNTESS OF OXFORD.

1728, April 15.—The books I now with all humility lay at your Ladyship's feet were in their original highly admired by the French court, and in my translation have met with more encouragement than would become me to boast. The matters on which they treat and the delicacy of the notions contained in them, flatter me with a hope they will meet some portion of favour from a Lady who in the several

characters which compose the Belle Assembly may find some resemblance of those perfections which are centred in herself, and which render her so much the ornament of her own sex and admiration of the other.

JONATH[AN] SWIFT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728, May 11. Dublin.—I must desire your Lordship's pardon if out of ignorance I send you medals that are perfect trash, but you have an easy remedy, to throw them out of the windows. There is a very fair one of Cromwell, which for aught I know may be as common as a milled shilling; there is one of a Roman Emperor which is fair, but I know not of whom; it was given me by a Portuguese cousin, who brought it with her from Portugal. The small one seems to be a Saxon; the older two are only Edwards, and I think very common, but perhaps you may want one to complete a series. That Portuguese cousin hath likewise a very fair gold medallion of Titus, with a reverse of Domitian when he was Caesar; some fool (if she does not lie) offered her three times more than the weight for it. So I shall not meddle with it, the intrinsic value of it is not above four pounds.

I have not heard of any coin of this kingdom before the Conquest under Henry II. Those since are of no value or curiosity, not above three or four hundred years old; with the names of the cities, as civitas Waterford, civitas Dublin, civitas Drogheda, &c.

T[HOMAS] BASTON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728, May 14.—Offers a book written some years since for the service of my country. It was never sold, but presented to many persons of the greatest quality and in the highest posts, and his present Majesty had one when he was Prince and Regent, for which he nobly gratified the writer. It was written with an honest intention, and he hoped it would be favourably received by his Lordship.

The REV. M[ATTHIAS] EARBERRY to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1728, July 22.—I have a transcript in my possession of which I suppose you have heard before. It is the description of Dorsetshire. I had designed to have made additions thereto and had prepared a scheme for that purpose, and offered some proposals by way of subscription, but find no encouragement from the gentlemen of that country equal to the loss of time and pains it would cost me.

I am unwilling it should return into the hands of booksellers, who are too mechanical in their dealings for me.

I find it was begun in the year 1613 and carried on till after the Civil Wars. The author was one Coker, a clergyman in that country. I have added a genealogical table of all the families that have been there since the Conquest.

As your Lordship has already a "Ledger" of one of the monasteries there (I think it is Bindon) from whence the author has borrowed something, this manuscript may I think deserve a place in your library, if you will please to let me know when I shall wait upon you with the same.

As for the unhappy accident of the dedicatory epistle to the "State of the Dead," I hope your Lordship is convinced I had no design to affront you, and am sorry enough both for that and for dealing with such a bookseller.

LORD BYRON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728, July 24. Newstead.—Hearing that Brigadier Sutton has been endeavouring to procure a lease of Harloe and Lindhurst for 61 years of your Lordship, and that his demands have not been agreed to; as your estate of Kirkby joins to mine of Newstead, and Harloe and Lindhurst is but half a mile from me, I should be sorry to have that command in other hands but yours, which would be very prejudicial to me and my family. And I hope you will never let those grounds for the use of red deer, which feed constantly upon your own tenants and this neighbourhood to the great prejudice of many poor families. Therefore if you be disposed to let Harloe and Lindhurst I should be very proud of being your tenant for the same at your own terms. I beg pardon for the trouble I have here given you.

ANASTASIA ROBINSON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728, December 1.—I return many thanks for the venison your Lordship has done me the honour to send me. I am extremely glad to hear the waters agree with my Lady Oxford. I hope it will not be long before I see her and Lady Margaret in town.

DR. WILLIAM STUKELEY to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1728-29, January 13. Grantham.—Gives a brief account of Queen Eleanor's Crosses, one at Grantham before his door, in a large area; he has one of the lions in his garden and another stone by the carving he knows to have belonged to it. Geddington and Northampton still pretty perfect, others demolished, St. Albans within memory. Waltham Cross pretty perfect, he drew a design of it which the Antiquarian Society engraved; but this last summer Mrs. Robinson has rebuilt part of her house, and encroached much upon the road and Cross too, and broke down a good deal of the Cross to make way for her roof. Hopes this summer to print one of his books on the temples of the Druids, has already seventy plates engraven and thinks to make them a hundred; will particularly describe that prodigious work at Avebury in Wiltshire. A necessary attachment to the business of a profession damps one's progress in things of this nature.

JOHN WARBURTON, Somerset Herald, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728-29, February 1.—Enclosed I send you the Leiger book of Hohn Cultram Abbey in Cumberland together with the seal of Cottingham Abbey in Yorkshire, which the owner thereof is willing to sell to your Lordship, but values the first at twenty and the last at ten guineas.

I am waiting at Williams's Coffee House for your answer.

Answered is a receipt signed by Warburton dated on the same day for ten guineas from Lord Oxford "for one vellum manuscript and one seal."

MAUR[ICE] JOHNSON, junior, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1728-29, February 28. Devereux Court.—I shall take care to transmit to the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding your noble benefaction of the Greek Ecclesiastical Histories, which are of a beautiful impression and I believe the best edition, and the curious prints you sent with them, at the same time enriching our Public Library and little Museum.

THOMAS BACON to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1729, April 2. Southampton Square.—I am very unable to inform you what was done this day, there never was more heat, Sir Robert twice taken down to order for these words—"I never saw a more disingenuous speaker in Parliament," meaning Mr. William Pulteney, again, "for scurrilous clamours within doors and unjust complaint without doors," but Mr. Pulteney forgave the first, and Sir Robert owned he said them, but soon said "scurrilous clamours without and unjust complaints within." Mr. Daniel Pulteney began the debate with a very close, sensible speech, reciting the facts with observations, and ended with a motion that the instruction as given to [Admiral] Hosier were impracticable, insufficient, and restraining him from doing justice to his nation and from protecting the trade. Sir William Wyndham answered, Walpole, Sands, Dr. Sare, William Pulteney, the Attorney General (Yorke) and Lord Advocate (Forbes), and lashed my kinsman Thompson as he deserved (*sic*). On a division, Yeas 76, Noes 218. Then Dr. Sare moved a question that those instructions were just, prudent, necessary, with a long preamble to them, but I did not stay longer.

[*Copy of D. Pulteney's resolution annexed.*]

MRS. ANASTASIA ROBINSON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1729, May 24. Padwell.—I take it as a very great favour done me that your Lordship should trouble yourself to write, that I might have the happiness of knowing Lady Margaret was in so fair a way of doing well.

I have experienced Lady Oxford's goodness for many years, and shall ever remember the honours she has done me with a due sense of gratitude.

My Lord Peterborough bids me assure you that he is much your humble servant; he says farther that if there be anything at Parsons Green which can induce you and my Lady Oxford to take the air there he shall value the place the more.

1729, May 31. Padwell.—Congratulations on Lady Margaret's recovery. Lord Peterborough has gone from hence for some days to the Bath.

JOHN ANSTIS, Garter, to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1729, August 18. Mortlake.—This manuscript copy of Mondouss Belvaleti about the order of the Garter being shown me I advised the gentlewoman whose property it is to bring it to your Lordship. This copy has the date of the time when the author finished it, 1463, which is wanting in the edition of it printed at Cologne in 1631 under the title of *Catechismus Equitum Ordinis Periscelidis*, so that in the end of the letter which I printed to the Earl of Pembroke I ascertained the age of it, by the author's presenting it to Whethamstead, Abbot of St. Albans, of which the Cologne editor was likewise ignorant, as he entirely was of the age of it.

J. D. SCHUMACHER to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1729, September 11. St. Petersburg.—Your Excellence did me so much honour when I was in England that I believe that you will not

refuse to add the first volume of our Memoirs to your library, the beauty of which still charms me when I think of it.

As soon as the second volume appears I will venture to send it to you, especially when I shall have learnt that our labours have not been disagreeable to you. *French.*

THE REV. THOMAS BAKER to THE EARL OF OXFORD.

1729, September 19. Cambridge.—When you did me the honour to enquire for me I was really in the walks, and though I returned soon after yet it was rather too late to pay my duty and service to your Lordship; though I was really afraid to appear before such discerning and elegant company (which I am most unfit for), who would presently have discovered some of my infirmities, contracted by age and a retired, monastic way of living, and very little knowledge of the world, and so best concealed in my chamber.

I have a very great honour for my Lady, and next to her for my Lady Margaret, but I content myself with viewing her in effigy, and with her character and description by Mr. Fenton: this I often peruse with pleasure, but dare not make nearer approaches.

Mr. Hearne enquires whether your Lordship purchased Sir Symonds D'Ewes's medals and coins, as well as his MSS., and whether there be any MS. tract about them of Sir Symonds' compiling. I doubt he has made too free with your MSS., but medals are dumb things, or if they speak they will not lie.

WILLIAM OLDYS to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1729, September 21. Grays Inn.—Mr. Ames called upon me yesterday, and I kept our discourse upon indifferent matters till he himself fell upon this. He was very full of the great rarity his Rastall had been accounted by several of his acquaintance, and talked at a high rate. I put him in mind of the easy rate at which he purchased it: that it must, by this time, have furnished him with all he could want as to use; and that, his friends knowing he had such a thing, it could be of no further credit as a curiosity; therefore a moderate advantage made of it and applied to other purchases might enlarge his collections, and consequently his intelligence. Oh, but though no further credit might be got by keeping it, yet after it was so well known how much he had prized it, there might be great discredit in parting with it: as what might make him appear inconstant in his esteem, or necessitous in his purse? *Hinc illa lachrima.* To salve this grievance, I proposed the procuring another copy, not so incomplete but he might render it perfect; and then he should have besides, for his, with the Lydgate and map, five pieces; and this at last, with many other arguments, reconciled him pretty well.

I here enclose the verses your Lordship desired out of my collections; and have inquired after White of Basingstoke's History, but hitherto can hear only of nine books. A. Wood mentions them all printed together, as the last edition, in a thick octavo at Douay, 1602, with the author's picture and arms. Nicholson quotes the same edition, and mentions but the same number of books. Dr. Rawlinson cites also the same edition, and mentions no number of books; but Jno. Pits, p. 807, makes the number eleven books. I hope to hear more of it in a few days, and also of Tho. Becon's works. In the catalogue of Tracts I had of your Lordship, one or two only occur that I can at present come at; but I

expect, in a hoard I have not yet examined, to meet with more. If my success shall be answerable to my diligence, your Lordship shall have no great disappointment in these or any other inquiries. I return Crompton's Mansion of Magnanimity, which you were so kind as to lend me, with many thanks for the perusal. By the date at the bottom, later by twelve years than I have usually read it in catalogues, or than the date is at the end, it appears to have been faced with a new title-page, to sell off the copy; and indeed such art it seems to have needed, for I think that noble subject might even in less room have been more distinctly treated. If your Lordship has not read the late printed book I send with it, there are remarks in it which may yield some amusement..

Postscript.—Mr. Booth remembers not to have ever published anything upon the Peerage.

The REV. THOMAS BAKER to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1729, November 24. Cambridge.—Amongst the many volumes, manuscripts, which are more your Lordship's than mine own, there is one volume containing Charters, Privileges, &c., to the town of Cambridge, from Domesday Book to near the present time, being such a book for the town as Hare's collection for the university. Your Lordship being now at the head of the Corporation it may possibly afford you some little entertainment, of curiosity at least if not of use. If you will order one of your servants to call at my chamber, it shall be ready for him.

The late Bishop of Peterborough made some use of the manuscript in his last large volume, which he presented me with in large paper curiously bound, being the last time I heard from him in whom I lost a kind friend.

JAMES BRAMSTON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1729, December 7. London.—Sends the Art of Politics by an anonymous author. It has a mighty odd frontispiece invented, it is said, by the famous Mr. Wootton, and the malicious town will have it that that part of the figure which represents a human face is not unlike the celebrated Mr. Heydegger; and Mr. Wootton says that is impossible, for Mr. Heydegger's face itself is far from being human.

VISCOUNT DUPPLIN to his Aunt the COUNTESS OF OXFORD.

1729-30, January 14, N.S. Lisbon.—We anchored here on Wednesday the 11th, since when Lord Tyrawley has entertained us with the greatest civility. This day my father and I were introduced to the King and Queen. The character of the Portuguese people is generally represented very indifferent, being looked upon as a proud, stubborn, ignorant people. The country is not reckoned to contain many things worth the observation of strangers, but every kingdom has some beauties. The town, built upon seven hills which decline to the river, though in itself dirty, affords a delightful prospect to those that are upon the river at a distance. The climate is undoubtedly fine, clear and wholesome; as for the manners of the people and the chief spectacles of the country I hope before I leave it to be able to give to your Ladyship some account of them.

GEORGE JEFFREYS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1729-30, March 3.—When I waited on you formerly on behalf of “Edwin,” you were pleased to receive me in the most favourable manner. The remembrance of so much goodness has given me the confidence to hope for your encouragement of “Merope,” a play of mine now in rehearsal at the theatre in Lincoln’s Inn Fields.

DR. THOM[AS] TANNER to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1729-30, March 21. Norwich.—May it please your Lordship to accept my humble and hearty thanks for the honour and favour of the letter I received by the last post. The kind notices your Lordship is pleased therein to give me of the Registers of Biddlesden and Holme-Cultram I shall take care to insert in their proper places upon the reprinting of my “Notitia Monastica,” which I hope will be begun this summer, and though I add very little to the historical account of the religious houses (only in this edition shall take in the Priors and old Hospitals), yet it will from an octavo of 21 sheets swell into a folio of between two and three hundred, chiefly by references to registers and records and other books printed and MSS. On which occasion your Lordship’s noble library will be very often mentioned, my old friend, honest, worthy Mr. Wanley (whose coming out of the draper’s shop and settling in a gown at Oxford was almost entirely owing to me) having been so good as to lend me his “Notitia,” wherein he had entered many of the Monastic Leiger books and rolls which your Lordship and your father had with so great expense and care collected, though I have reason to think his references were not quite perfect, and many other things of that nature to be sure have come in since. Your Lordship is most extremely obliging in the kind offer of the sight and use of that vast and valuable treasure which to the benefit of the learned world your Lordship is happily the master of. I had reason to think that either the last winter or this I should have been obliged to have made some stay in London, and did then intend under cover of the name and memory of my late excellent good neighbour and friend, Dr. Stratford (with whom I always lived well and truly respected for his good learning, great knowledge in College affairs, love of virtue, industry and discipline and for very many other valuable accomplishments) to have waited on you and begged the favour and pleasure of running over some of your books. I must not omit to acquaint your Lordship that I have hereby me seven octavo volumes of Dr. Math. Hutton’s collections from the Patent Rolls, which Dr. Stratford was so kind as to borrow for me out of your library. I brought them to Oxford last April, with intent that they should be returned, but it was in his last illness, and though he did me the favour to let me see him as much as any friend yet he said he could not well find the note I gave him for them, and believed that without offence to your Lordship I might keep them some time longer. The next time I come through London in my way to Oxford, I hope to bring them safe to your Lordship with all the duty and gratitude the loan of them and kind offer in your letter will ever engage me to pay you. Among the many servants your Lordship hath at Christ Church, if in any little offices there or in Oxford I can be of use, your Lordship’s commands will be by no one more readily obeyed.

DR. JON [ATHAN] SWIFT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, April 28. Dublin.—I had the honour of your Lordship's letter dated the 4th of March last, and I deferred my acknowledging it thus long to see what success I could have in recommending Mr. Wesley's book. I have the fewest acquaintance in this kingdom of any man who is condemned to live in it. I am hated mortally by every creature in power, and by all their followers. The author's name is utterly unknown here, except by some who read verses and have chanced to read some where he is distinguished as an unfortunate meddler in poetry. I gave the proposals to a clergyman who knows more of his tribe than I do; but such is the poverty, the indifference, the ignorance and the pride of people among us, that he hath not got me one subscriber. Therefore I fear it will all terminate in my desiring Mr. Pope to subscribe for me. That I do not trouble your Lordship with my letters, is the greatest mark I can give you of my respect. It is not possible for any person in this kingdom to be either of use or entertainment, and particularly to your Lordship, who are wholly a stranger as well to the people as to the concerns of so wretched a scene. And I am almost in the same case; I do not visit one Lord either temporal or spiritual, nor am acquainted with above three squires and half-a-dozen parsons. If my own little affairs, I mean the whole small fortune I have, had not been embroiled by law, and yet in peril of being entirely lost, I believe I should have ventured this summer to have waited on your Lordship, and quartered once more on my good friend Mr. Pope; for although my health is uncertain, I am still an excellent walker and a tolerable rider. But I have other difficulties besides my private affairs to detain me. No offence to your Lordship, I am not very fond of the public situation. I see nails that I thought might be pulled out, now more strongly rivetted than ever. I heartily congratulate with your Lordship and my Lady Oxford for Lady Margaret's good success in coming out so happily from a disease so ruinous to ladies as the small pox, and without being obliged to the Turkish manner of inoculating. I hope my Lady Oxford eats more than she did when I was a witness to her starving. If she does not promise to mend in that article, I beg your Lordship will burn her barge.

I have a very fair medal, worth sixpence, of Edward III, I know not whether it be worth putting into your series of English Kings. Pray my Lord, look upon me as the Greek Emperor did upon the countryman who offered him a very large turnip; you commanded me to enquire into coins here, and as an ignorant man I may do ignorant things. Your Lordship acted your own part, a Harley part, in your generosity and favour to Mr. Whalley, and I had the honour to act on the same principle when I entrusted your Lordship to befriend an honest Oxford gentleman against the rigour and cruelty of the common law. The loser sends complaints hither that he was overcome by party. I wish it were true, for then there would be some hopes of a better world; but I believe the event will show that the loser will be a gainer, and that they will take care to see a most abominable poet and a strong party man reimbursed by a Bishopric. Our friend Carteret is gone, and we are in the clouds apprehending he will not be rewarded according to his merit, which (as I have often told him) is excessively great, according to the best merits of a chief governor here; which are to put on more (chains?) and to get more money, wherein none of his predecessors ever equalled him, nor met with more stupid, slavish, complying beasts to manage. Mr. Wesley will not be encouraged by the

person you mention from the same principle that Buckley was. I most humbly thank your Lordship for the favourable invitation you are pleased to give me, but time and the miseries I see about me have made me almost as stupid as the people I am among, and altogether disqualified me from living with better.

I desire to present my most humble respect to my Lady Oxford and Lady "Marget."

MRS. E [LIZABETH] THOMAS ("Corinna") to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, June 5. Fleet Prison.—With such ardent gratitude, and awful veneration, as the Barbary captives approached their late Royal Redeemer, I presume now at liberty, to offer up my votive thanks at your door, for the noble bounties I received when a prisoner. May the great Author of all good bless and reward a charity so near approaching perfection!

My Lord, with the utmost regret I have deferred this duty till now, having been wedged down in this detestable place by an incurable and painful malady, poverty, and tatters. Ever since my clearing in July, I have had much difficulty to support a wretched being, and entirely despaired of getting out of this place, but Providence sent comfort when I least expected, Lady Frances Clifton clothed me, my Lord Delaware sent four guineas towards paying my prison debts, which were contracted since Michaelmas 1720 (during that long and hard winter, when I lay ill and must have perished had I not found a little Christian credit in the house), and to work out the rest I wrote the enclosed trifle, depending on two guineas for the copy, which is the market price for a sixpenny pamphlet, but through the deadness of trade could get no money; only an equivalent in books, which I humbly hope such friends as are inclined to buy will be so good as to purchase of me now, rather than of the shops when published.

The Duchess of Somerset (who has been long a great support to me) had the bounty last week to give me a stock of stationery ware, and to buy of me after, with a gracious promise of future custom at her return. My Lady Delaware has given me leave to hope for a recommendation among her acquaintance, when I am out of this place; so that I now begin to hope I shall live by my honest industry; it being worse than death to me to receive favours and live idle.

I dare not presume to hope for the honour of serving your Lordship, but I most humbly implore a pardon for this too great presumption.

DR. RIC [HARD] RAWLINSON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, May 16. London House.—Very soon I shall dispose of those books which your Lordship seemed inclined to look over. I have not yet taken any resolution as to my late brother's MSS., nor shall I determine anything without apprising you. I blush for the trouble I gave you by Mr. Mattaire about *Giulio Rossi's Successi d'Inghilterras*, of which I now hear there is a copy in Bodley's Library.

I desire to have a few hours' sight of any paper, letter, or other writing signed by the late Archbishop Sancroft, after his being in the possession of the see of Canterbury.

The EARL OF OXFORD to Dr. RICHARD RAWLINSON.

1730, May 20. Dover Street.—I have a parcel of papers which did belong to Archbishop Sancroft. I some time since bound them all up in volumes and sent them about three weeks since to Mr. Baker at Cambridge. When he returns them you shall be very welcome to see them or anything else that I have that will be either of use or pleasure to you.

Copy.

SIR HANS SLOANE to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, May 30.—Sends a catalogue he had received from Paris which might be worth his Lordship's perusal, especially since the MSS. were to be sold singly and without being put up to auction.

JOHN, BISHOP OF CARLISLE, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, July 1. Rose Castle.—The enclosed is a particular of all Dr. Todd's manuscripts of his own composing taken by my Register from his widow, who has the disposal of them. The price she sets upon them is one hundred pounds, but if you think that too much and have a mind to purchase them, be pleased to let me know what you are willing to give and I will make the best bargain I can for your Lordship. I do not leave this country till the latter end of August.

PATRICK ANDERSON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, July 11. Edinburgh.—I have sent off to your Lordship the Chartulary of the Abbey of Coldstream, the completest old Scots Bible I could meet with, and two MS. books, being a register of the public deeds granted in Scotland, and I hope very soon to send two other MS. books, which will complete that register to James I.'s accession to the Crown of England. I shall think myself very happy if these and the Chartulary of Melrose and the MS. copy of Fordun which I sent you formerly are to your liking.

The Government has never yet done anything for my father's family, which falls very heavy upon me, being pressed to pay the engagements I was under for him. I entreat you to give Mr. Claud Johnson the eighty pounds I wrote formerly about, which would be a most reasonable relief to me.

Dr. CONYERS MIDDLETON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, July 12. Cambridge.—I have not had a moment's time in the hurry of this last week to give your Lordship an earlier account of what passed at our Commencement, where we had indeed a great deal of company, at the head of which were the Duke of Bedford, the Marquis of Blandford, with a few other Noblemen and at least a dozen Baronets. The Vice-Chancellor opened the solemnity on Monday morning with a speech, but through the natural imperfection of his voice was not at all heard. It had been well for Bentley, who spoke next, could he have covered himself under the same impediment, but his performance was so contemptible and so far below all expectation as to surprise everybody, and leave his friends without any excuse for him but that of mere incapacity to support the character of a Divinity

Professor. In the next day's disputation he was silly enough to offend all his audience by an invidious comparison drawn between Oxford and Cambridge, telling us, what is not true, that he could not but observe with pleasure that in all the attacks made on religion the champions and defenders of it were all Cambridge men, whilst our sister Oxford, always forward and intriguing, had by an artful taciturnity insinuated herself into all the best preferments of the two Kingdoms. The rest of the disputants acquitted themselves very well, and had Bentley been out of the way the Divinity exercise had passed off very reputably. In the afternoon the two Proctors introduced the Philosophy Act by speeches, where honest Jeff in the highest strain of his rusty voice ranted out your Lordship's praises. I have at his desire enclosed his two speeches for your Lordship, but hope you will treat him for the future as Sylla is said to have done with a bad poet, and the next thing you give him make it an express condition that he shall not praise you for it.

The ladies were very numerous and quite filled our galleries, not without much crowding for places to hear the only entertainment provided for them, the music and the speech before it, both which pleased very much: the speech had the advantage of a very good delivery and an audience disposed, after so much grave exercise, to relish anything that was gay and cheerful, but the Orator was, I doubt, but ill advised in sending it to the Press, whence 'tis soon to appear in public, where for want of the advantages above mentioned it must needs fall short of the applause and reputation 'tis at present possessed of. The music likewise gave great satisfaction and was repeated on Tuesday in the close of all: and Dr. Green, in compliment to his performance, has since had the title of Professor of Music conferred on him. The Duke and Marquis were very diligent in attending our exercises, and when those were over both of them separately did me the honour of a visit at my house. The other particulars of our entertainment I shall refer till I have the pleasure of waiting on your Lordship, which I propose to myself in a very few days, though I ought rather to ask pardon for troubling you too much already with the account of a show which you so heartily and openly contemned, to the great disappointment and mortification of all your Cambridge friends. I am to account with your Lordship for nine guineas received from Bentley himself without any other trouble than that of sending my man with the receipts, who brought back the money in exchange for them. Be pleased to present my duty and compliments to my Lady Oxford and Lady Margaret.

Postscript.—Dr. Colbatch desires me to transmit a petition to your Lordship in his name for a side of venison to treat the Bishop of Ely with, who visits his parish and with the clergy of those parts has appointed to dine at his house on the 30th instant. Be so good as to frank the enclosed to my wife. I shall bring up myself the verses mentioned in Jeff's note, being too large for this packet.

The EARL OF OXFORD to [the BISHOP OF CARLISLE].

1730, July 21. Dover Street.—I think the widow [of Dr. Todd] sets too high a price upon the manuscripts. If she will take three score pounds for the whole I will give it her.

I think it is a fair price, especially when no profit is to be made of them in the way of trade. I desire you will not let her know who the person is that bids for the manuscripts.

Draft.

NATH. NOEL to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Down Hall.

1730, August 25. London.—I have at last received my large cargo from abroad. It consists of ten bales of curious books, amongst which there are many printed on vellum, with good manuscripts particularly a Chronicle of England certainly writ in the eleventh century. I have at the same time received a large collection of books of Sculpture, and single prints of the first impressions of antiquities by the greatest masters, with three thousand Heads of eminent men which is one thousand more than the King of France has in his collection or is in any collection in Europe. They are not to be equalled in fineness of impression or number, many of them being on satin and on vellum.

There are of the following great masters all the Heads, great and small, that ever they graved, viz. :—M. Antonio, after Raphael ; Callot, Stephen de la Bella, Hollar, Edilink, Mellan, Nantuel. There are likewise the views and antiquities that these great masters have graved.

I believe your Lordship on sight of them will not think that I have said more than they deserve. I shall set out on Saturday next for Bath with my wife who is ill, and design to be in town in a month to wait your pleasure, designing to take them out of the Custom House as soon as I come to London ; therefore beg that your Lordship will not fail to let me have two hundred pounds at Michaelmas as you promised. I shall not open or take them out of the King's warehouse till I have your Lordship's pleasure, therefore beg you will favour me with a line directed for me at Mrs. Buckley's in Westgate Street, Bath.

DR. JONATH[AN] SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1730, August 28. From the north parts of Ireland.—I am the only man since the first Villiers Duke of Buckingham that ever succeeded in favour from a father to a son ; for I can boast myself to have been in the good graces of two Earls of Oxford. But I have one advantage over the Duke that I am in no danger to be stabbed on account of the kindness and distinction you are pleased to show me. Your letter was sent me by Mr. Clayton to a friend's house here in the north, where I have been passing a cool summer these two months, and shall finish the third before I return to Dublin. Neither my present condition of health or private fortune will suffer me to make larger journeys. I have had your Lordship's letter near a month, and by the return of an old disorder, a giddiness in my head, I have wanted spirits to make my acknowledgments for the honour you have done me. God forgive my revengeful temper if I am not sorry for any mortifications on your side. Your ministers have ruined this country, which your Lordship's father from principles of justice, prudence and humanity, took care to preserve. You will forgive me, my Lord, for the zeal of liberty hath eaten me up, and I have nothing left but ill thoughts, ill words, and ill wishes, of all which I am not sparing, and like roaring in the gout they give me some imaginary ease.

I hope to recover my little fortune in two or three months, and have no other value for it than that upon any public distress or any strains of power that may affect my conscience, I may have somewhat independent to keep my nag, myself, and a glass of ale in Wales.

What should I do in England, when I find myself entirely ruined at court, and in utter disgrace with the minister ? If they would pay what they honestly owe me, I would be just their humble servant as

much as I am already. If a scribble comes out complaining of our hardships here, it is infallibly laid at my door. It is well I have the rabble on my side, that hath been very lately told them, and they affect not to believe it. There is a fellow here from England, one Sawbridge, he was last term indicted for a rape, the plea he intended was his being drunk when he forced the woman; but he bought her off. He is a dean and I name him to your Lordship, because I am confident you will hear of his being a bishop; for, in short, he is just the counterpart of Chartres, that continual favourite of ministers.

I congratulate with my Lord Bathurst for his recovery from a fever. It is the disease of a young man, and foretells a long life, if that be any satisfaction in such a world.

The good account you are pleased to give me of my Lady Oxford's health hath removed a great load from my shoulders, for I was ever in pain about her Ladyship's want of appetite, and could often hardly forbear acting the physician by prescribing my only remedy, which I take twice a day in fair weather and once in foul; I mean exercise, which although it be the cheapest of all drugs, yet you great people are seldom rich enough to purchase. Pray God preserve my Lady Margaret and your Lordship in the health you possess.

HENRY TURNER BROONE to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730, September 8. Westminster.—Has cleaned the two pictures as directed and fixed them in their places.

Reminds his Lordship that he had promised to send payment for the picture of Holbein, and his resolution about the Vander Velde, the Brewer and the Philip Wouvermann. His Lordship will no doubt be pleased to consider what capital pictures they are of the several masters.

CONYERS PLACE to the REV. DR. MIDDLETON.

1730, December 7. [Dorchester, Dorset.]—Cousin Middleton, pursuant to your request I send you here an account of Mr. Prior's parentage, from his father's brother's son Christopher Prior. Mr. Prior's grandfather lived at Godminston [Godmanstone] a small village three miles from this town, he had five sons and one daughter called Mary married to one Hunt of Lige, a village eight miles hence. Thomas and George, two of the brothers, were bound apprentice to carpenters at Fordington joined to this town; whence they removed to Wimborne about eighteen miles hence eastward where Thomas lived and died and where George the father of Mr. Prior married, but how long he lived there I cannot find, only his wife, Mr. Prior's mother, lies buried at Wimborne or by it, with whom I have heard that Mr. Prior desired to be buried before Westminster Abbey was in his eye. That Mr. Prior was born at or by Wimborne I find because Christopher said he remembers his cousin Matthew coming over to Godminston when a boy and lying with him. George his father, after his wife's death I suppose, moved to London, encouraged by his brother Arthur who had succeeded in the world and kept the Rummer Tavern by Charing Cross, the great resort of wits in the latter end of King Charles the Second's reign and in my remembrance; who took in his nephew Matthew to wait in the tavern, from which time you know his history. Arthur had much acquaintance in this town whither he used each summer to come down, to see his native country. He had one son named Matthew, I believe long since dead,

and a daughter named Catherine whom her father sent down to this town, where she was a blazing star some time, to secure her virtue from some of his great guests, but it proved too late, one Guy of Yorkshire, called then I remember the Great Guy, followed her and attended her here with his coach and six, whence he carried her off.

Christopher says he heard that Catherine married first a French Marquis or Count called Beloe or some such name whom I take to be that cousin Catherine Harrison mentioned in Mr. Prior's will, if she is an old woman, otherwise it is likely her daughter. A son of his aunt Hunt made application to Mr. Prior, when in his glory, for something to be done for him being a seaman, but Mr. Prior put him off with some ready money and some guineas to his aunt; but told him he was not married nor should be, and when he died he would leave what he had amongst his relations.

Christopher, who gives me the greatest part of this account, lives as his father Christopher did before him in the mansion-cottage of the family at Godminston; he is an honest labouring man, had nine children but now only six, within this few months last past it has pleased God to afflict him with the loss of both his eyes sunk quite into his head, which has thrown him a charge on the parish. He and his family have much of Mr. Prior's face and complexion, large cheek bones, a deep red in their cheeks, for such had Mr. Prior when young; this family are now the only relations of the name that I hear of, and if my acquainting my Lord of Oxford with it might prove an occasion to him to exercise some of that generosity for which he is so renowned towards these poor remains of the name and blood, he would through these parts raise living monuments of his regard to Mr. Prior's memory at an easy rate, with brasses more to the life than that of Coriveaux; and if that last part of human vanity had been mixed with some little regard to this branch of his name and blood I think Mr. Prior would have discharged but a natural duty.

WILLIAM OLDYS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730-1, January 9. The Golden Spread Eagle, Long Acre.—The satisfaction of thinking that my manuscripts and pictures may in your Lordship's noble library be secured from dispersion, and enhanced in their worth (some things which appear not to shine alone, receiving lustre by conjunction), as it first induced me to offer them to your Lordship before any other person, so does it deter me from insisting upon those just returns from them, which a dealer would expect, for his time, his trouble, and the use of his money.

Of the prints, those which are modern the prices are known, and the ancient being scarce, are known to be not only more difficult but dearer to procure, yet if I reduce the dearest to the price of the cheapest, and reckon only 25*l.* for these prints, which is not much above sixpence a piece (though many amongst them cost me above fivetimes this money) and only 5*l.* for the drawings, which is not two shillings each (though many of them cost me five times this money and above) I think there can be no objection, unless it be that of imposing upon myself.

And as for the manuscripts, though I was proffered twenty guineas for these royal letters mentioned in the catalogue by a late bookseller who proposed to make that money again of them, even after he had printed them, yet I will ask no more of your Lordship for the whole collection of them, than I have for the other two collections, which is so moderate, that if it were only considered in the labour of transcribing,

(how succinct soever some of the pieces may seem) without setting any value upon the composition or subject matter, it would amount to more money. Thus the whole is threescore pounds for the manuscripts, prints and drawings, a sum which all things considered in them alone, without anything that might move regard to the owner, may perhaps admit in your Lordship's judgment and honour, of an augmentation, sooner than a reduction.

A.B. to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1730-1, February 8.—Nothing can be more melancholy than to see one of the most learned men in the age in a starving condition, not only for want of subsistence, out of clothes likewise, and labouring at the same time under many infirmities. The unfortunate gentleman I mean is the author of the "Examiner," and though no man has deserved better of his country, yet is none more forgot. Nor is it the least of his misfortune that he cannot complain, nor will he suffer any one to do that office for him, though his distress is unparalleled. He [William Oldisworth, *See p. 36*] lodges at Wills' Coffee House, in Bell Savage Yard, Ludgate Hill.

F[RANCIS] DRAKE to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1730-1, February 9. York.—It is with great satisfaction that I return your Lordship my hearty thanks, as well for so readily excusing my inadvertent fault, as also for the great honour you have done me in beginning a correspondence with a person only known to you by character, and which character I am afraid I do not justly merit. Your Lordship's commands shall be punctually obeyed: I only wish it may lie more in my power, than it does at present, to oblige you.

The Register I mentioned contains nearly 600 pages on vellum, very fair, but a little imperfect towards the end; it has not, however, suffered these hundred years by a note of the pages then taken by the possessor. A gentleman of Ripon, in the neighbourhood of Fountains, hearing what design I was upon, sent it me to peruse; and indeed it is not out of my way: for in the grants of their possessions in this city, there are several Dignitaries of the Church, and several Lord Mayors named as witnesses, which do not occur in any catalogue I have yet met with, as well as several streets mentioned, whose very names are now entirely lost to us. By what I can learn, the gentleman I speak of has not so good a title to it as I have at present, which is possession, and I believe no person whatsoever can make out a clearer. He is a Limb of the Law, and will be over here at our Assizes, at which time I intend to sound him about it, and shall be sure to advertise your Lordship of his intentions. In the meantime, if your Lordship would do me the favour to acquaint me how far I may bid him for it, I should make it my rule to go by, for I really do not understand the value of such a thing as to money.

I shall from time to time advertise your Lordship with what curiosities I meet with. I am in pursuit of a MS. Bede of great antiquity, but whether I shall come up to it or no is uncertain. People in this country are not such great strangers to things of this nature as I could wish them; the late Bishop of Ely [Moore] plundered these parts excessively when he was down in person amongst us, and Dr. Man—g. Prebendary of Durham, another Churchman, makes no scruple to beg, borrow or st—l all he can lay his hands on.

A catalogue of Dr. Blake's books, late Archdeacon of this place, will soon be published. If your Lordship please I shall send you one. It is chiefly remarkable for having a collection of all the pamphlets *pro* and *con* which have been published these forty years.

But I shall be too tedious, and must beg leave to withdraw in assuring your Lordship, &c.

The Rev. JOHN HORSLEY to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730-1, February 11. Morpeth.—Describing at some length the work he is about to issue entitled “*Britannia Romana*.” A small number are printed on superfine paper, one of which, with two of the common sort, will be sent to his Lordship at the first publication.

DR. ZACH [ARIAH] GREY to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1730-1, February 20.—Has sent his Lordship's “*Burton*” to town. The MS. notes are many of them Burton's own by some remarks of the transcriber, who owns in one place that he had Burton's improved book in his custody about the year 1640. Is in hopes of retrieving some original manuscript letters of Dr. Willis and other eminent physicians in Charles II.'s time, which are at his Lordship's service.

W [ILLIAM] OLDISWORTH to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1730-1, February 21. Wills' Coffee [House], Bell Savage Yard on Ludgate Hill.—This waits in all humility on your Lordship to return you my best thanks for the late kind and generous favour you conferred on me.

From the fury of the times I fled into an easy peaceable retirement and the enjoyment of a competent fortune, with which I was happily contented, till the vile bankruptcy of a near relation reduced me to what I now am without any fault of my own but too much credulity.

I am now joined with a gentleman of Ireland in publishing a work; the proposals for it, which I enclose, have already gained some ground in the House of Commons. I humbly hope it will be found to deserve some encouragement from your Lordship.

The manuscript which accompanies this I entreat your Lordship to accept of as a small instance of my sincere gratitude. I should not have thought it deserved a place in your library had not my learned and worthy friend Mr. Hearne, of Edmund Hall, concurred with me in judging it to be of the age and time of Wickliff. This and another volume, which when I can find shall be transmitted to your Lordship, were found among the remains of an immediate ancestor of mine, who was a Welsh judge, a recorder and member for Gloucester in the reign of Elizabeth.

As to the letter written to you on my behalf I am an entire stranger both to the writing and author of it. I never was an eager solicitor for myself or suffered others to be so for me. I keep my present station, low as it is, with content and resignation, and shall make no advances or give any trouble to my superiors, but by their own explicit leave and permission.

WILLIAM OLDYS to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1730-1, February 23.—As I informed your Lordship there was a book and three or four papers in manuscript remaining of the parcel you were pleased to prefer to your noble library, which my catalogue

allowed not room enough to specify. I have therefore presumed it would not be improper herewith to tender them, imagining, as two or three of them appear to be originals, they may not be deemed unworthy of accompanying the rest.

I hope I shall be accommodated by Saturday to offer you a little parcel of original letters written by Sir Edward Hyde in his residence abroad, during the troubles before the Restoration; and shall then acquaint you with the intelligence I gained about a twelvemonth past of some considerable remains (I suppose in the dramatic way) of that late famous tragic poet Nat Lee, with something also, either in picture or writing, relating to Richard Cromwell.

Were but my affairs restored to such a situation as would suffer me to continue in town and revive myself to some acquaintance I have formerly been known to, the delight I have ever taken in such enquiries and recoveries would be doubled by the prospect of becoming serviceable to your Lordship, no one being more inclined to such pursuits and preservations in general, or more ambitious of distinguishing himself in particular to such an illustrious patron of them.

JAMES CRAWSHAW and SAMUEL WAINWRIGHT to the
EARL OF OXFORD.

1730-1, February. Sheffield.—With reference to Acts recently passed to make the river Dun or Don navigable from Holmstile to Tinsley, and from Holmstile to Wilsick House, the corporations of Sheffield and Doncaster find it necessary to unite into one company for that purpose and to petition Parliament for further powers and alterations which are still wanting to perfect the navigation. They desire therefore his Lordship's vote and interest in the matter.

E[USTACE] BUDGELL to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, April. Ludgate Hill.—I have endeavoured in the enclosed sheets and in my "Letter to the King of Sparta" to pay a debt of gratitude which I owed to the memory of your Lordship's father.

THOMAS HUNT to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1731, May 8. Soho.—Seeks admittance to his Lordship's invaluable treasure of manuscripts, and asks that this importunity may be excused in a hungry Arabian, who may as well expect to satisfy his appetite in the barren deserts of his own country as anywhere in this extensive city besides in that excellent storehouse of curiosities which his Lordship has so richly and munificently replenished for the benefit of mankind. Has presumed to leave a copy of his Grammar.

DR. J[OHN] COLBATCH to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1732, May 18.—On Monday our principal Article, which related to Dr. Bentley's non-attendance at divine service, was allowed of by a majority of the Lords, nineteen against twelve. This gave just cause to hope that the victory would soon be complete. But on Tuesday, several Bishops being gone out of town, and some lay Lords being either absent or leaving the House before the question was put, the prohibition was ordered to stand upon the next Article, by reason of a pretended inaccuracy in the words. Yesterday we selected a few of

those which charged Dr. Bentley with dilapidation, and seemed to be most material for their substance, and the least exceptionable as to the form, resolving to put the whole stress of the cause upon them. But the number of Lords who had favoured us being diminished by absence and of those on the other side increased, a vote passed that all the Articles should be read and considered in their order. This could not be done before the end of the present session: wherefore the final determination of this matter was put off to the beginning of the next, by the agreement of friends as well as of others. In the meanwhile it is generally believed that the dispute will end by the removal of Dr. Bentley, by means either of a pension or preferment to some Deanery.

There have been several remarkable incidents in the progress of this affair, with which I shall not trouble your Lordship at this time, but defer the relation of them till I have the honour to attend you at Wimpole.

THE REV. THOMAS BAKER to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, May 18. Cambridge.—I received your noble present of wine and chocolate by the carrier, the bottles all safe but too many to be numbered, and therefore I can only in general return your Lordship innumerable thanks for innumerable bottles. I have the more reason to be thankful that it came so seasonably at a time when our wine at Cambridge is so bad that it is hardly safe to use it, at least very sparingly. A gentleman who was with me from Mr. Hearne at Oxford was very sensible of the difference, who after he had been drinking bad wine at the “Rose” was greatly refreshed with your Lordship’s old sack; and so, I am sure, was I, and, without a compliment, it is perfectly a cordial.

I congratulate you upon the new accession of manuscripts to your Library, which without such an addition is already beyond any private library we have in England; and yet your Lordship will never have enough, though the world thinks otherwise.

DR. GEORGE CLARKE to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1731, June 7. Oxford.—I communicated your Lordship’s very kind intentions to several of the University whom I thought the best judges of what would be most acceptable to this place. I told them you mentioned the Library, the Gallery, or money; and a help in any of these particulars will be most welcome, in such a manner as shall be most agreeable to your Lordship. There is little or no fund to buy books for the Library; and the few good pictures that are in the Gallery suffer much by hanging upon bare unwainscoted walls; and as there are many valuable manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, it would be an honour to us and an advantage to learning to have some of them published, which with proper encouragement might be brought to pass. I think I spoke of the Physic Garden and what Dr. Sherrard’s executors required should be settled upon it before he would let us have his brother’s benefaction, when I last attended you.

Anything your Lordship shall be so good as to do will be received and acknowledged with all imaginable gratitude.

MARY BARBER to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, June 9. Mrs. Newdegate’s in Thrift (Frith) Street, Soho.—Soliciting some help in a project of hers in which the Duchess of St. Albans and others are interesting themselves. The Dean [Swift] has

desired Lord and Lady Oxford, Lady Margaret Harley, and Mr. Harley and his son may be told 'tis his request she should be honoured with their names. She flattered herself from his Lordship's known humanity and love of arts that a woman, a stranger far from her friends and her country, who was recommended by one of the greatest genius's in the world who has so just an esteem of Lord Oxford, could not fail of his patronage.

[See *Dean Swift's letter of August 2, 1733, p. 46, post.*]

DR. THOM[AS] TANNER to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1731, July 3. Christ Church, Oxford.—I have received Dr. Hutton's MSS. by the Duke of Leeds, and also the Doctor's collections from the Registers of Bath and Wells, in five MS. volumes, and four volumes of his collections from the Registers of York, which I promise to use with care and to return them undefaced to your Lordship upon demand.

I am obliged for the notice you give me of your having procured a Register of the Abbey of Welbeck, which I will take the liberty to refer to in my *Not[itia] Mon[asticon]*. There was one of those kind of books in the hands of Robert Earl of Kingston, 1630, and another belonging to Mr Whalley of Scereton 1613; perhaps your Lordship's may be one of these. I thank you for the offer of the loan of it, but at present what you have sent me and a piece of dry work which I have fallen upon of endeavouring to make out a list of all the noblemen, gentlemen commoners, students, chaplains, &c. of this great College from the foundation of it to the beginning of the matricula, viz. 1661, will take up all the time I can get at present.

DR. J[OHN] COLBATCH to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1731, July 19. Trinity College [, Cambridge].—Referring to the failure of the proceedings taken against Dr. Richard Bentley and to the powers of the Bishop of Ely as Visitor to the College.

F— GYLES to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1731, July 24. London.—About a month ago I heard at Cambridge that several libraries had been robbed by Dr. Nicholls, and I told Mr. Haderton, the under-librarian, that I had bought several books of the Doctor, and named some as I could recollect, among which was the Dugdale's Summons in large paper, Turkey leather, that I sold to your Lordship. Upon which Mr. Haderton went to the University Library and brought me word that and another book I mentioned were missing, and there is no doubt that they were both stolen by Dr. Nicholls. However, I pray, if you have any application made to you not to part with the book till I am satisfied in respect of the money I paid for them.

There is a new edition of Thucydides with large additions by Mr. Wasse and others, now printing in Holland, which will be finished in a fortnight. I shall have one in royal paper which if your Lordship pleases to have shall be sent where you shall order. On August 2, I shall set out for Holland and Paris, and if I can be any ways serviceable to you in those parts your commands shall be readily complied with.

GEORGE HARDIN to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Down Hall, in Essex.

1731, August 5.—I am assured that Lord Weymouth did yesterday desire his Grace of Dorset to release him of the promise he had made of accompanying the Duke to Ireland, in which his Grace very readily obliged him to the great satisfaction of the young Lord, but not at all of his mother; but her displeasure if I am rightly informed will never trouble his heart.

Some of the last East India ships have brought some curiosities from China greatly valued—most charming gold and silver fishes all alive and swimming in fine China cisterns, and the most beautiful cock pheasants infinitely superior to anything before seen in the town. If you have any inclination to them you must make a timely application to Mr. Drummond, Sir Matthew Decker or some such friends.

DR. J [OHN] COLBATCH to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, August 14. Orwell.—Sends a copy of Dr. Bentley's late petition. The Attorney General [Yorke] and the Solicitor General [Talbot] could not advise his Majesty to grant the prohibition of the Bishop of Ely from exercising certain alleged rights as visitor of the College which Dr. Bentley prayed for; and they looked upon the application as unprecedented and irregular. Our cause seems now to depend wholly upon the good Bishop's resolution and conduct.

Copies of the petition, &c., annexed.

SIR HANS SLOANE to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1731, September 2.—I have had offered me for sale a Greek copy of the Evangelists about seven or eight hundred years old, in large letters of that time, except two leaves of a smaller though large hand of a later date by two hundred years. It is on vellum and sent from Ham-burgh to be sold here, but not under one hundred crowns. Mr. Metaire was extremely delighted with the sight of it and thought it worth 100/. If your Lordship likes the purchasing of it I will order it so that it shall be kept till your coming to town.

[Annexed is copy of Lord Oxford's reply, dated Sept. 6, to the effect that he will be very glad to have the manuscript.]

The SAME to [the SAME].

1731, September 9.—When your Lordship comes to town please to let me know, that I may give notice to the proprietor of the manuscript to wait upon you with it. As it is a considerable rarity (in my opinion), and fitting and properer for your Lordship's collection, I will not have it myself and will endeavour nobody else shall. It is in my possession, and the person who has the disposal of it I believe will follow my directions which shall be for your service.

BENJ. AYCRIGG to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1731, October 23.—This morning about four o'clock a fire broke out in Ashburnham House and consumed the greatest part of the Cottonian Library. I was present the whole time and saw a few cases preserved and some few books which were flung out of window; but the whole house may be said to be consumed. The fire began, as Dr. Bentley

told me, in a stove chimney, which had a wooden jamb in it, and was first discovered by himself, who being waked by his lady's coughing perceived a smell of wood smoke.

DR. RICHARD MEAD to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, October 26. Ormond Street.—I have been at Ashburnham House. Dr. Bentley tells me that half the manuscripts of the Cotton Library have been burnt. A great loss this, and I cannot but reflect, with how much concern, I have heard your Lordship's great father complain that care was not taken (according as the Crown was obliged by two Acts of Parliament which he had provided) to maintain and keep in due repair the Cotton House, that the library might have been perpetually kept there. Dr. Bentley says that this calamity is the Nemesis of Cotton's ghost to punish the neglect in taking due care of his noble gift to the public.

DR. ROBERT FREIND to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

[1731, end of October.]—Our meeting is put off till next year. I will acquaint your Lordship with some reasons for it, when I have the honour of waiting on you, but we cannot possibly have any play acted, having upon this sad calamity that has happened here lent the new Dormitory, which lay so very conveniently, for receiving the Cotton Library, or rather the relics of it. Though many books have been brought in that were secured by people in the neighbourhood, and young Bentley tells me, now they have got them together and examined a great part of the catalogue, that four parts in five of them are saved. The great Doctor [Bentley] took refuge at my house in his distress, and stayed with me three days till he could get other lodgings. His conversation is not the most polite, he made the women stare strangely, but to me he was often entertaining and instructive; but I hear he went back to Cambridge to-day in some ruffle, under some intelligence he has had that the Bishop of Ely intends soon to attack him again. His "Milton" is all printed off, and his preface, part of which he read to me, is sent to the press—it will be diverting when it comes out, though many of his corrections that he communicated to me are right, the faults often acutely observed, but not so often well amended, especially when he goes beyond a word or two, and gives half lines and whole lines of his own; he makes some excuse for this adventurous spirit, having had some reputation for poetry in his youth—*Me quoque ratum dicunt Pastores, sed non ego credulus illis.*

GEORGE HARBIN to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731-2, January 2.—An approaching reconciliation with the Emperor is now much talked of and believed, which for ought that I and many more such politicians know to the contrary, may be a wise action in our ministers, but if I am rightly informed, all the trading part of this great town seems passionately desirous of a war, as if poverty which they apprehend to be coming upon them like an armed man could be kept at a distance no other way. In short, all the common people are extremely out of humour; they fancy want and misery to be near at hand, and know not what remedies or expedients can prevent it. For some days past they have been much alarmed with a report that the value of guineas will be reduced to twenty shillings, and some

say to eighteen, though I am assured there is no manner of foundation for such a report, and it seems absurd to imagine such a thing should be attempted.

Dr. Savage is like to meet with a strenuous opposition in St. George's Vestry when the election of a lecturer comes on, which I hear will not be before Easter. It has got into many of the parishioners' heads that Sir Robert has undertaken his cause, which for that reason they will not believe is a good one; and they seem to resent it very much that any minister (except an Ecclesiastical one) should pretend to influence them in their votes upon this occasion. It is certain that if Dr. Savage has any faults they are all like to be brought to light, every body being now very inquisitive after his character, and many too forward to believe the worst of him.

DR. J. COLBATCH to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1732, May 6.—Our cause [with Dr. Bentley] came on this day before the House of Lords. Mr. Fazakerly and Mr. Harper were heard on our side, who held their Lordships so long that they had not time to hear those of the other side, who are the Attorney General and Mr. Greaves; so that the final decision is put off till Monday, which very probably will be in our favour, our counsel having performed their parts excellently well, Harper to admiration and far beyond all that I could expect from him. The arguments used by both have apparently made a very deep impression on the minds of the most honourable judges, such as, 'tis hoped, the adverse party will not be able to efface.

DR. JOHN COLBATCH to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1732, May 9.—Yesterday the judgment given last year by the Court of King's Bench against the Bishop of Ely was reversed by a great majority of the Lords; twenty-eight against sixteen. The debate was chiefly managed by the Bishop of Bangor and Lord Carteret, with great eloquence and strength of argument by the former, and with much heat by the latter, who was warmly seconded by the Earl of Winchelsea. On our side were the whole Bench of Bishops, the Lords Windsor, Falmouth, Foley, Strafford, Gower, Bathurst, Shaftesbury, Marchmont, Tweeddale, etc. On the other side the Duke of Somerset, the Lord Chancellor, Lords Delawarr, Wilmington, etc. The Judges were ordered to attend at both hearings, who were all for affirming the judgment in question, but through Lord Strafford's good management and a strange neglect on the other side their opinion was never asked. On Monday next the Lords are to consider which of the Articles are within the Bishop's cognizance; when we shall be willing to set aside a good number, having abundantly more than will suffice to convict Dr. Bentley of having both dilapidated the College revenues and violated the statutes.

GEORGE HARBIN to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1732, May 23.—I hear the old Duchess of M[arborough] is still inexorable, and is quite out of temper when the marriage of her grandson (which I presume was over some hours ago) falls into discourse. She has forbid Mr. Spencer, upon her blessing, to come near his brother, but finding he has no more duty for her than the Earl, she has told him his doom, and ordered the payment of what was due to him to be forthwith made.

It is said the Prince is purchasing a house in Kew Green for Miss V[ane], which will cost him about four thousand pounds.

To-morrow possibly we shall know what the sentiments of the House of Commons are about Belloni's letter, which is said to be very artfully written, not without a design, as some think, to embarrass our Senators, but it will soon appear how vain all Italian artifices will prove whenever the British wisdom is pleased to exert itself.

F[RANCIS] DRAKE to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1732, September 25. York.—About a month ago I put out proposals for publishing by subscription my “Eboracum,” which I am confident your Lordship will encourage. As the charge of printing and engraving this work will be very great I have need of great assistance to enable me to go through the undertaking. At the last races, however, I started fair, having been honoured with the subscriptions of all the nobility and most of the gentry upon the place; Lord Burlington, especially, has not only accepted the patronage of the work, but has presented me with the plates of his fine assembly rooms in this city, and has promised me to take care that all the rest of the drawings shall be engraven with the greatest exactness.

DR. DAVID WILKINS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1732, September 30. Park Street, Westminster.—With reference to his new edition of the Councils of Great Britain and Ireland, in three folio volumes, asks leave to examine the catalogue of his Lordship's manuscripts and records, being mindful of Lord Oxford's protection and encouragement to him in his editions of the Saxon Laws and Selden's Works.

GEORGE HARBIN to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1732, December 19.—About a fortnight ago Lord Portmore having been bit by a mad dog, came to this town to consult Dr. Mead, who has disciplined him according to the annexed receipt. His Lordship continues very well, without the least sign that the bite is like to have any consequences.

Postscript.—Dr. Mead's prescription for the bite of a mad dog.

Let him lose ten ounces of blood from the arm. Then take of grey ground liver wort [*Lychn cinereus sylvestris*], one drachm in powder, and of black pepper one scruple in half a pint of cow's milk every morning, to four doses. He must also go into a cold spring every morning for a month together, dipping all over, and staying in about a minute; and then three times a week for a fortnight after.

DR. JONATH[AN] SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1732-3, January 3. Dublin.—There is a usual favour which we who live in this kingdom pretend to claim, if we have English acquaintance, especially with Lords. The bearer of this, Mr. Thomas Shaw, will venture to give you a printed paper, called a case; a thing your Lord (*sic*) is well acquainted with. He is a gentleman of a good estate, for which he is at law with an Irish Lord, called Lord Dunsany, who was a forfeiting person by the rebellion of his ancestors in 1641. But before I would venture my credit with your Lordship, I consulted with

the Attorney General, and another lawyer here, both very eminent in their calling, of fair reputation, and my long acquaintance, whether Mr. Shaw had a just cause; who both assured me he had, and that it was decreed for him here, but renewed by vexatious appeal, and other litigious practices, that I know nothing of. It is now almost a year since I first writ to your Lordship upon this affair, but the cause being by the arts of his adversary put off to the approaching session, Mr. Shaw returned me my letter, and desired a new one, which I would not refuse him.

Your Lordship now knows your duty, which is only to attend the hearing of this cause as often as you conveniently can, and to make my Lords Foley and Masham, and all the Lords with whom you have power to do the like. But, as for the decision, I have nothing to say.

THE REV. THOMAS BAKER to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1732-3, January 7. Cambridge.—Having received Dr. Middleton's full consent I once more make your Lordship a humble tender of Bishop Gunning's papers, all that I am possessed of, for there were many more. Such as they are, you will be pleased to accept them, and find some room for them in some dark corner of your noble library; it is the greatest right I could do them to have them so honourably lodged.

The letter from Dr. Cosin is very valuable containing his and Bishop Overal's opinions concerning ordinations and episcopacy. There is a mistake in the date which should have been 1657, as some of the rest were dated from Paris 1657.

In the letters you lent me there is mention of a famous book styled "Nepthali," which I presume has hardly come into your collection, therefore I do myself the honour to present it to your Lordship. It is in a very plain dress, but it deserves to be bound in moroco.

JOHN WARD, Master Cutler, and WILLIAM RADCLYFFE, Mayor, of Sheffield, to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1732-3, January 13. Sheffield.—About the Acts of Parliament empowering the Corporations of Sheffield and Doncaster to make the river Dun or Don navigable, asking his Lordship's support in almost the same terms as were used in the letter from Sheffield of February, 1730-1, noticed on p. 37 *ante*.

THOMAS BACON, M.P. for Cambridge, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1732-3, January 16. Queen Square.—I am just now come from School, where the Speech was read: it is very short and in general terms. Hen. Bromley moved for the Address and was seconded by Mr. Knight. Sir John Barnard, after speaking very strong about the word "animosities," moved to add after the words "to raise the supplies in such methods as would most conduce to the present and future ease of the subject, and to the preservation of the liberties of the subject," which was seconded by Mr. Sands. Then Shippen spoke and ended with a motion to add "consistent with the honour and justice of Parliament, and with the trade, interest, and liberty of the Nation." Sir Robert agreed to both, but the latter only passed.

DR. R. MEAD to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1732-3, February 22. Ormond Street.—Recommending Charles Jenner for the vacant place of afternoon preacher in the chapel in Cavendish Square.

SIR JOHN DOLBEN to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1732-3, March 1. Finedon.—Asking for information about some manuscripts which he had placed in Dr. Freind's hands eight or nine years previously, with a view to their sale to his Lordship. The price set upon them was 200*l.*, but Lord Oxford is asked to inform the writer's kinsman Mr. Attleck, what he will give for them, or to return them.

F. DRAKE, "surgeon in York," to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, March 25. York.—I propose to put my "Eboracum" to press in three months time. I saw an original picture of that truly loyal and brave gentleman, the Marquis, afterwards Duke of Newcastle, in your house in London, and a good drawing of him would greatly embellish the work. I entreat your Lordship either to bestow the plate upon me or suffer Mr Vertue to draw it from the original.

The Register of Fountains is still in my custody and shall surely be in yours as soon as I can conveniently secure it for you. I have not been asked for it these two years by the owners and, like a true antiquary, I am in hopes he has forgot it. This is the reason I dare not talk of a price to him, but it shall not go from me without his refusing the highest that your Lordship offered.

DR. HENEAGE DERING, Dean of Ripon, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, April 3, and July 13. Ripon.—Two letters, and one undated coming between the two, referring to some books presented by Lord Oxford to the Church of Ripon. "There hath not been a book till now added to our Library these hundred years." A list of the five or six books sent is attached to the first letter.

EDMUND GIBSON, BISHOP OF LONDON, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, May 7. Fulham.—Mr. Baker's "Reflections upon Learning" has been a great entertainment to me, and might do good service at this time, if it were more known and read. The History of Harrison is a very extraordinary thing in its kind, and a lasting caution against executions for murder when the body has not been found.

I heartily thank your Lordship for the favour of communicating them.

DR. JONATHAN SWIFT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, May 31. Dublin.—I writ to your Lordship some time ago, upon an occasion wherein we who live in Ireland, and happen to have friends in England are often employed; I mean the case of an appeal, wherein this city is a party, and I being one of its protectors for a long time, as a neighbour and confederate Prince, could not forbear my intercession, when at the same time I get an opportunity to pay you my respects and acknowledgments for all the obligations I have received from you and my Lady Oxford.

This letter will be delivered to you by Mr. Jebb, who I find hath been long known to you, and of whom I have a good opinion. He intends to fix here, and hath lately got a church preferment of some value from a beast of a bishop you sent us, but I think it was without by (*sic*) the interest of the Archbishop of Dublin, who hath taken Mr. Jebb under his protection. Mr. Jebb hath a very good reputation among us, which I believe he well deserves; and hath naturally good principles; but his friends being on the side of power, he is forced to tack the prudence of the serpent to the innocence of the dove. I do not know a more modest, decent, well-behaved person; I see him often, like him very well, and can give allowances for the party he is attached to; because I hope and believe he will never go any lengths unbecoming a man of honour and conscience, and my hope is much founded upon the favour your Lordship hath shown him. If he ever deceives me, your Lordship will be one of my deceivers. I have often panted for a letter from you, and I excuse you of any want of good will, but impute your silence wholly to your laziness. I have felt of late the effects of time by a return of an old disorder of giddiness, which more or less daily pursues me, but I oppose it by constant riding and walking, wherein I wish you would follow my example. This ailment hath hindered me from seeing my friends in England, for fear of being sick too far from home, where I can be easy, and do what I please without troubling others.

Postscript.—Your Lordship may have seen or heard of a foolish poem, impudently printed in London as mine, upon what people will say of me after I am dead. I confess I writ a poem upon that subject, which I have often shown, and is above twice as large as this spurious one, but I never gave it out of my power, and in that which is printed there is not one single line or thought which resembles the original, nor is the sham copy so long by three hundred lines. Therefore I beg your Lordship will please to justify me.

DR. JONATH[AN] SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1733, August 2. Dublin.—This letter will be delivered you by Mrs. Mary Barber, who coming over hither last year on her private affairs was snapped by the gout, who made her such frequent visits that it prevented her return to London for several months. She is now well enough to undertake her voyage, and very easily prevailed with me to write in her favour to your Lordship. She is by far the best poet of her sex in England, and is a virtuous, modest gentlewoman, with a great deal of good sense, and a true poetical genius. Your Lordship must have often heard of her; for I believe you, or my Lady Oxford or Lady Margaret, have subscribed for her poetical works, which would have been published before this time, if she had not been so long confined by her illness here. My request is that all your family, friends and relations (who have not done it already), should by your commands immediately become her subscribers, and that my Lady Oxford and Lady Margaret shall be her particular protectors.

I have some correspondents in England who are so good, at my request, sometimes to send me an account of your Lordship's health, and the two ladies, without being obliged to any of you. Neither will I be ignorant in what concerns you, while I am alive, and any body left to write to me. Mr. Pope promised to make me a summer's visit when his mother should happen to die, but he failed me, although soon after her death he had the fairest opportunity and the fairest weather to

make the journey in the most easy convenient manner, and in company with two of his friends. As to myself, neither my health, nor the very bad posture of my private affairs in this oppressed and starving penniless country, will hitherto allow me the power of seeing my friends in England, and neither of those impediments are likely to be removed, but rather increase.

I have so many obligations to your Lordship's father, and yourself and my Lady Oxford, that they hourly pester my head in spite of my teeth, but God be thanked these incumbrances will all be cleared at my death, and I am glad you will have no claim of thanks on my wife and children, who will never get one farthing from any of your generation.

Pray God long continue your Lordship and the Ladies in prosperity and health, and I desire you will be so just to believe me ever with the utmost gratitude and greatest respect, &c.

Postscript.—Since I writ this letter upon talking to Mrs. Barber, she told me with the greatest marks of gratitude, what honour and favour she received from your Lordship and my Lady Oxford.

GEORGE HARBIN to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, August 8.—At the meeting of the Somersetshire gentlemen at Wells, last Thursday, my Lord Hinton offered his service, and expressed a very earnest desire of having the honour of being one of their representatives in the next Parliament. After his Lordship had done Mr. Horner and Sir William Wyndham stood up successively, thanked the gentlemen for their former favours, and assured them if they thought fit again to confer that trust and honour upon them, they would endeavour to serve them with the utmost zeal and fidelity. It was soon evident, that my Lord Hinton had no manner of hopes of success, not one gentleman in the assembly (the greatest that ever was known to meet at any Assizes) attempting to put him in nomination against the other two. However though he had no friend who would venture to declare for him as a competitor, there were not wanting some who extolled the merits of his father very highly, and paid the utmost compliments to his family, among whom Mr. Palmer distinguished himself so remarkably that it has lost him some of the esteem many of the gentlemen had for him.

My Lord Hinton finding it impossible to gain an interest in this meeting was resolved however to reason the case with them, and this he did (together with his three brothers) in such a manner as has put the gentlemen pretty much upon their mettle. He told them, their resolution about this matter was too early and ought to be deferred to a meeting much nearer to the time of election. That the two gentlemen now nominated had several times before had the honour of serving this county as its representatives, and ought to be contented, that others should take their turn who had as good a right to this favour as they. He did not know, he said, why the gentlemen now present, who were but freeholders themselves, should pretend to dictate and prescribe to the much more numerous part of them which was absent, to whom he was resolved to apply, and with them to try his fortune: and lastly (that he might obviate an objection he apprehended would be made against him, which in truth, not one of the gentlemen thought fit to mention), he said his having an honourable employment at Court ought not to be prejudicial to him, since it had not been so formerly to others who had been elected knights for this county; in which he was supposed to have hinted at Sir W. Wyndham.

To the objection, that this was not a proper meeting for the nomination of the knights of the shire, a new Parliament being at so great a distance, Mr. Mildmay answered :—that his Lordship himself had taken care to show the weakness of it, having been the very first person in this assembly that applied to it in relation to a future election, and proposed himself for a candidate : he must have done therefore a very improper thing himself, if this was no proper meeting for that purpose. The same gentleman added that as it was well known that my Lord Poulett and his agents had been for some time very busy in sending circular letters about the country, to [remainder missing.]

WILLIAM OLDYS to the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, September 4.—The collection of historical and political manuscripts, with that of the sculptures of our renowned countrymen, which I had the opportunity of advancing to a preservation in your Lordship's incomparable library, may possibly have preserved the collector himself some place still in your Lordship's memory.

The reason for my requesting the favour of waiting upon you is to show your Lordship a curiosity which I have had the good fortune to retrieve from the ruins of disregard. It is called "Sir Francis Walsingham's Table Book," specifying the titles or contents of all the letters, memorials, and other state papers in his possession during the time of his administration. It was written in the year 1588, contains 230 pages in octavo, and I have gone some way in an index to it, by which it will appear how full it is in the notation of persons, dates, projects, and events, and more copious in many particulars than the largest Histories of those glorious times, which do not mention them at all.

GEORGE HARBIN to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1733, September 15. Hestercomb.—The gentlemen of this county have been thoroughly employed in making good their opposition against Lord Hinton, who is still very active, sparing neither pains nor cost, as if he doubted not of making, at least, a formidable appearance in the field. But, if I am rightly informed, he must fail in the attempt, and will soon be sensible it will be in vain for him to struggle against the whole body of the gentry, animated with the warmest resentments, and supported with very large fortunes, which they seem resolved not to spare in this quarrel.

Mr. Horner has opened his purse very freely upon this occasion, and much strengthened his interest by a late march towards the enemy's quarters, where it is said, the effusion of blood has been so very great, that his opposers are much disheartened by it. I saw a letter yesterday from a gentleman in the neighbourhood of Bristol, in which he affirms that Sir John Smith and himself shall appear at the head of at least six hundred.

And in these western parts, where I am, the gentlemen are continually giving entertainments to the freeholders round about them that there is hardly one but is engaged against Lord Hinton ; even Mr. Palmer himself has at last found it necessary to send to those manors where he had an interest to secure them for Wyndham and Horner.

Lord Bolingbroke has spent these six weeks at Sir William Wyndham's at Orchard. I hear he rises very early every morning and writes very much.

Young Mr. Portman will certainly be one of the burgesses at Taunton and Mr. Fane the other, without any possibility of hindering it, the dissenting interest being so powerful in that town.

Your kinsman Mr. Popham with his lady have been settled in an obscure place in this neighbourhood now a full twelvemonth. She was brought to bed of a son, about three months ago, who is in good health. The father left his lady two months since, and I find it is a secret where he is, and when he is like to return to her; but as she hears from him often, it is presumed he has not concealed from her the place of his abode nor the reason of his absence, and therefore it may be hoped she bears it the better. She must certainly lead a very melancholy and disconsolate life in so private a retreat, where she converses only with servants, never stirs abroad, and has received no visits but from Mrs. Bampfylde and another relation of the Popham family.

G[EO[RG]E] VERTUE to the EARL OF OXFORD.

[1733.] October 18.—Excuses himself from accepting an invitation from his Lordship, as it being St. Luke's Day, the Society of Artists have their annual meeting, of which body he has been a member nearly thirty years. He should have the pleasure of drinking his honour's health there, as one of the noble encouragers of arts and sciences, painting and sculpture especially, in England.

GEO[RG]E VERTUE to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1733, November 13.—As it is my duty to be thankful for every favour of your generous friendship at all times, so especially now at my return home from your Lordship's bountiful entertainments, are fresh obligations to me to wish health and happiness to your honour, your most noble and excellent lady, and Lady Margaret.

When we left Wimpole I had totally forgotten to desire to see those pictures at Whaddon, but being in our road, I made a stop, and indeed as representations by speech too frequently give ideas rather according to the conceptions of the relators than the fact, in this case from what I had heard, I conceived as mean a notion as could be, but lower I think than they deserved. I wish I had had a list of their names with me, which I hear your Lordship has, though many are well known to me. Of these pictures I like most Cromwell, More, particularly the young Earl of Surrey, with a small pink in his hand, Buchanan, and one over the door with a white band, about the Commonwealth time, and some others seem to be tolerable (though copies), that is, they by accident are better, as the originals happen to be well done. Upon reflection I think such a collection to a middling antiquary (if I may think so of myself) would be a most valuable treasure, being somehow the representations of so many considerable persons together, though some deserve to be rejected. But my Lord, how accidentally there should hang in the same room against the wall by a small thread the head of a Crosier, of brass gilt with gold of form ancient and entire [*sketched in margin of letter*] I did not ask, nor could I expect there to be informed where it was found. This I suppose your honour may lay amongst other antiqualia (*sic*) when you think proper to preserve it that a draught may be justly taken according to the true form of it.

From thence we came to Puckridge, where we went out of the road to visit Lord Aston's ancient house, and especially to see a picture of Vicar-General Cromwell, which being on board and pretty well preserved,

painted by Hans Holbein, and valued accordingly. Others of the like kind I have seen, but I think this is the most valuable of that great statesman.

On the table appears a letter directed thus:—"To our trusty and very well beloved Counsellor Thomas Cromwell master of Our Jewel House."

By this I may conjecture it may be one of those pictures said to be done for Sir Thomas More at his house at Chelsea, where was also Warham the Archbishop, Erasmus, and others so well known to King Henry VIII., being of the same form and bigness.

The going about to this Lord's House and time spent there in order to see the pictures, with a turn about a winding lane of four or five miles, put us quite out of our computation of our way and brought us near Ware; so near, therefore, that at my earnest request [and ?] Mr. Murray's favour we went straight to Ware; and he excused me from returning back to his house at Sacomb, where I should have rested that night, as your Lordship appointed. Immediately being at Ware we drank a glass of wine, refreshed our horses, and pushed on for Enfield; where we got safe at six and half, and then made our supper and dinner together, and rested there that night.

But for some part of my entertainment that evening my friend Mr. Murray did 'joke' me for riding in the dark, and on account of your Lordship's command, did (as he says) speak to my face what he will say again, to make me remember it, that I was an unsteady companion, had no resolution, that he would never travel with married men, &c. Though it mortified me much I hope he will represent it to your Lordship in as favourable light as he can when he writes, that I may obtain your Honour's indulgence upon reasons of my business that your Lordship is better acquainted with than he is.

But to trespass no longer on your goodness, I only add, that next morning we pursued our journey and, as he was fully resolved to visit Lord Coleraine, I went there with him, and there we dined, where we met with a reverend gentleman, Mr. Smith, who spoke much in respect to the honour you did him at Cambridge lately where he saw your Lordship.

Mr. Murray and I parted at Kingsland turnpike in our free and friendly jocular way, a few minutes before two o'clock.

EARL POULETT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733, December 16. Hinton.—I had so much grief added to my other troubles in the loss of my familiar friend and companion of my life, who eased me in all my cares, that I was upon the brink of going to the other world; and indeed my strength has so failed me and my health is so much impaired as I think this is almost like a letter from the dead, and I am the better prepared for this state in being here reduced to the Spanish friar's proverb "God deliver me from such friends and I will defend myself from my enemies."

Mr. Millart, your servant, was with me this summer and can give you a more particular account of my concern in this country than I will presume to trouble you with in writing so long a letter. I will only say I have been used much at the same rate as your father was used, and that by the influence and direction of the same persons who were his greatest enemies, to a degree that they persuade a party of men to change their minds and be against my son, when they had but the moon before

desired my son to declare himself a candidate for this county, and are proud of condemning him before he is tried, though he, in justice to me and himself, did in public inform them of what was truth. Thus some men will do that for a party which they would scorn to do for a Court. I own I had rather have no change then see B[olingbroke] again in power.

WILLIAM OLDYS to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Wimpole.

1733-4, January 15. The Golden Spread Eagle, Long Acre.—Though there is some time passed since I received hopes of improving Sir Walter Raleigh's Life from your Lordship's incomparable library, I should have still waited till your arrival in town before I attempted to revive them, had I not been advertised by the proprietors of Raleigh's History that it will be all printed off in a week or two, so that the press will stand still if I do not supply it with the Life, I having been obliged to stand still myself several months, for want only of two pamphlets which are probably near at your Lordship's hand. I have therefore ventured to renew my request for your communication of them.

Besides these two pamphlets, namely, The Observations on Sanderson's History of King James. 4to, 1656, and Sanderson's Answer to it the same year, there were two or three pieces of Thomas Churchyard's mentioned in the little list you were pleased to receive from me, concerning the Netherlands, &c., whence I hoped some light into Sir Walter's engagements there, and another called "The Spark of Friendship," which, being dedicated to him, might yield two or three lines applicable to my purpose. Father Parsons' Latin Answer to Queen Elizabeth's Proclamation against the Jesuits was also mentioned in the list, of which I have found an abstract which was printed in English. Svo. about the same time, viz., 1591, whence I hoped to father upon that Jesuit the first aspersion of Sir W. Raleigh with Atheism. As for the two manuscripts also therein mentioned, of which I had the honour among the rest of my collections to secure the preservation in your Lordship's library, I should not mention one of them again, which was the Earl of Clarendon's Translation of the Duke of Sully's Negotiations in England, 1603, a small folio in a white vellum cover—there being not above two or three lines in it that I want—but that I have not been so lucky as to meet with the original French edition. But the other manuscript, which was among the Letters in the blue-covered book, being Sir Thomas Ailsbury's Abridgment of Sir W. Raleigh's trial, I would be glad to compare it with that which passes in print for Sir Thomas Overbury's Arraignment of Sir W. R.; though, as I remember, the manuscript of the one is but a sheet and a half, but the printed Trial of the other is as much again or more.

I did not mention any Poetry in that list, but could wish to be satisfied whether there is anything upon Sir W. R. in Charles Fitzgeffrey's "Affaniae," a collection of Latin Epigrams, printed 8vo, 1601, which was before that knight fell under displeasure, and by an author who was a West Country man, therefore more probable than any other poets I have not seen to remember him with honour. I shall trouble your Lordship but with one particular more, and that is the piece of intelligence you were pleased to oblige me with concerning Sir Edward Coke's obligations to the Earl of Essex, which I do not remember to have ever met with in print.

How much soever any of these pieces might be of service to me, I should be ashamed to appear any ways pressing for the use of them, if

I did not consider it is a work of a public nature I am pleading for, and a disposition towards the public good, in preserving the memorials of eminent men, that I am pleading to. And this noble disposition might, I presume, so far extend to Sir Walter Raleigh, that the very plenty of materials which might be communicated of him would not only cover the imperfections of his Historian, but add that memory to his name, which was endeavoured to be cut off with his life.

THE REV. THOMAS BAKER to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1733-1, January 17. Cambridge.—I have two volumes in folio, manuscripts formerly belonging to Alderman Newton, containing some transcripts concerning the University and more concerning the town. They have given me much trouble in lending them out,—twice or thrice to Alderman Nutting, as often to Alderman York, once to Alderman Austin, to Mr. Butler of Barnwell, Mr. Perkins of Fulbourn, &c.—which you would ease me of by accepting them; but they are really of little use. Alderman Newton's son, from whom I had them, styled them books of Precedents, and by the price he set upon them seemed to have no great opinion of their value.

Where Mr. Wharton's manuscripts are lodged I cannot surely say. Mr. Anstis can doubtless inform you, for he has quoted them to me. No doubt they are valuable and might deserve a place in your noble library.

Chocolate I have in abundance, and sack in good store, and I beg that you will not tempt me to use it too freely, as I am afraid I do already; and there is the danger, not in want, but in excess.

DR. J[ONATHAN] SWIFT to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1733-4, February 16. Dublin.—The bearer, Mr. Faulkner, the prince of Dublin printers, will have the honour to deliver you this. He tells me, your Lordship was so gracious as to admit him into your presence, and receive him with great condescension, which encouraged him to hope for the same favour again by my mediation, which I could not refuse. Although for his own profit he is engaged in a work that very much discontents me, yet I would rather have it fall into his hands, than any others on this side; and printers here have no property in their copies, as they have in London. I am just recovered in some degree of two cruel indispositions of giddiness and deafness after seven months. I have got my hearing, but the other evil hangs still about me, and I doubt will never quite leave me, till I leave it. I hope your Lordship, and my Lady Oxford, and Lady Margaret, continue in perfect health: I pray God preserve you all, for the good of your friends and your country.

DR. R[OBERT] FREIND to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1734, April 3.—Yesterday I saw your picture at Mr. Dall's, which I think very like, and told Mr. Dhall (*sic*) I would ask your Lordship's leave that he might take a half length copy of it for me.

JOHN ANSTIS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1734, May 24. Heralds Office.—I am very much concerned that I had not the honour of receiving you this day at Mortlake, where I would have certainly been if I could have foreseen this kind visit, and

requested your tasting our country provisions of beef and mutton, with a bottle of tolerable good wine, which latter I think I have there.

The occasion of my coming and staying in town for some days is an indisposition, which, by the prescription of the doctors, hinders me from eating and drinking, saving herbs and water, which is affliction enough to any person of a sociable temper, though they tell me there is no other consequence to be feared, and that a little patience with this abstemious method will recover me.

JOHN ANSTIS to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1731, May 25.—There is no doubt but my Lady Margaret hath an indisputable right to use all the arms to which your Lordship is entitled, which are a great number; but then according to the rules, and the supposition of the Law, which never allows a daughter to be the heiress, presuming that a son may be born, it seems that the arms of Holles, and the quarterings brought in by that noble family, cannot be used at this time by Lady Margaret, to whom I wish all the felicity and joy that marriage ever did or can produce. I should think the empaling of the single coat of Harley, or at most taking only one other coat to be quartered with it, sufficient to be put upon a coach, otherwise they will be so small as not to be well distinguished at any distance. And I know no other care to be taken in empalements save that the number of the coats used on the dexter and sinister side be not equal, for then it cannot be discovered whether the whole do not belong to the husband; and your Lordship knows that it hath been the custom for many ages to use the right supporter of the father upon the side of the arms of the lady the daughter, but as your Lordship's are angels on both sides, the angel is to be used.

THE REVEREND FRANCIS PECK to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, May 28. Godeby, near Melton Mowbray.—I send your Lordship enclosed a paper, and indeed a dirty one; but I daresay you will not despise it for being dirty, seeing it is every letter (the date only excepted, which I have added*) King Charles I.'s own handwriting.

I am now sorting a great collection of original papers, such as at divers parts of my life I have had the good fortune to pick up and save from being destroyed. I shall date them every one (as your Lordship sees I have done the enclosed) then place them in an order of time, and bind them up into volumes. Before each volume I intend an index of contents. They will make about twenty volumes. When I have finished the index, I will send your Lordship a copy of it. In the mean while, if it be not too much trouble, I could be glad to know in what sort of binding your Lordship likes to have manuscripts of this sort; for it is my desire, if ever I part with them, to part with them to you.

Enclosure.

Charles I. to his People. Cairnsbrooke Castell 18 Jan: 1647.

To all my People of whatsoever Nation, Quality or Condition. Am I thus laid asyde, and must I not speake for my selfe? No! I will speake, and that to all my People (which I would have rather done, by

* "18 Jan. 1647" at the head of the king's proclamation, printed on the following pages, is in Charles's hand-writing. At the right-hand side of the heading Peck has written "Jan. 18, 1647, 23 C[harles] I."

the way of my two Houses of Parliament, but that there is a publike Order nether to make adresses to or receive message from me) and who but you can be judge of the differences betwixt me and my two Houses? I know none else; for I am sure, you it is, who will enjoy the happiness, or feele the misery, of good or ill Governement; and we all pretend who should run fastest to serve you; without having a regard (at least in the first place) to particular interestes: And therfor I desyre you to consider the state I am, and have beene, in this long tyme, and whether my actions have more tended to the Publike, or my owen particular, good; for whosoever will looke upon me, barely, as I am man, without that liberty (which the meanest of my subjects enjoyes) of going whither and conversing with whom I will: as a Husband and Father, without the comfort of my Wyfe and Children; or lastly as a King, without the least show of Authority, or Power, to protect my distressed subjects; must conclude me, not only voide of all natural affection, but also to want common understanding, if I should not most cheerfully embrace the reddiest way to the settlement of thease distracted Kingdomes: As also, on the other syde, doe but consider, the forme and draught of the Bills lately presented unto me, and as they are the conditions of a Treaty, ye will conclud, that the same spirit, which hath still beene able to frustrat all my sincere and constant endeavors for Peace, hath had a powerfull influence on this message, for though I was ready to grant the substance, and comply with what they seeme to desyre, yet as they had framed it, I could not agree thereunto, without deeply wounding my Conscience and Honor, and betraying the trust reposed in me, by abandoning my People to the Arbitrary and Unlimited Power of the two Houses, for ever, for the leavying and maintaining of Land or Sea Forces, without distinction of Quality, or limitation for Mony taxes: And if I could have passed them, in termes, how unheard of a condition, were it for a Treaty, to grant beforehand the most considerable part of the subject matter? how ineffectuall were that Debate lyke to prove, wherein the most potent Party had nothing of moment left to aske, and the other nothing more to give? so consequently how hopless of mutuall compliance? without which a settlement is impossible: Besydes if, after my concessions, the two Houses should insist on those things, from which I cannot depart, how desperat would the condition of thease Kingdomes be! when the most proper and approved remedy should become ineffectuall?

Being therfor fully resolved that I could nether in Conscience, Honor, or Prudence, passe those fower Bills, I only endevord to make the Reasons and Justice of my Denyall appeare to all the World, as they doe to me, intending to give as litle dissatisfaction to the two Houses of Parliament, (without betraying my owen Cause) as the matter would beare: I was desyrus to give my Answer of the 28 of December last to the Comissioners sealed (as I had done others heeretofore, and sometyes at the desyre of the Comissioners) cheefly because when my Messages or Answers were publikly knowen, before they were read in the Houses, prejuditiall interpretations were forced on them, much differing, and sometyes contraire to my meaning: For example, my Answer from Hamptoncourt was accused of devyding the two Nations, becaus I promised to give satisfaction to the Scots, in all things concerning that Kingdome; and this last suffers in a contraire sence, by making me intend to interest Scotland in the Lawes of this Kingdome (then which nothing was, nor is, further from my thoughts) because I tooke notice of the Scots Comissioners protesting against the Bills and Propositions, as contraire to the interests and engagements of the two Kingdomes:

indeed if I had not mention'd their dissent. an Objection. not without some probability, might have beene made against me. both in respect the Scots are much concern'd in the Bill for the Militia. and in severall other Propositions; and my silence might. with some Justice. have seemed to approve of it: But the Comissioners refusing to receive my Answer sealed, I (upon the engagement of their and the Governor's honor, that no other use should be made, or notice taken of it, then as if it had not beene seene) read and deliverd it open unto them: whereupon, what hath since passed. eather by the Governor in discharging most of my servants, redubbling the Guards, and restraining me of my former liberty (and all this. as him selfe confest, meerly out of his owen dyslike of my Answer, notwithstanding his before said Engagement) or afterwards, by the two Houses (as the Governor affirms) in confining me within the Cirquit of this Castell, I appeal to God and the World, whither my said Answer deserved the reply of such proceedings: besydes the unlawfulness for subjects to imprison their King.

That, by the permission of Almighty God, I am reduced to this sad condition, as I noway repyne, so I am not without hope, but that the same God, will, in due tyme, convert thease afflictions into my advantage: in the meane tyme, I am confident to beare thease crosses with patience, and a great equality of mynde, but by what meanes or occasion I am come to this Relaps in my affaires, I am uterly to seeke; espetially when I consider that I have sacrificed to my two Houses of Parliament, for the Peace of the Kingdome, all but what is much more deare to me then my Lyfe, my Conscience and Honor: desyryng nothing more, then to performe it in the most proper and naturall way, a personall Treaty: But that which makes me most at a losse, is the remembring my signall compliance with the Army, and their interests, and of what importance my compliance was to them; and their often repeted Professions and Ingagements for my just Rights, in generall, at Newmarket and St. Albons; and their particular explanation of those generalls, by their Voted and Revoted Proposals, which I had reason to understand should be the utmost extremity would be expected from me, and that in some things therein I should be eased (heerein Appealing to the Consciences of some of the cheefest Officers in the Army, if what I have said be not punctually true); and how I have failed of their expectations, or my professions to them. I challenge them and the whole World to produce the least color of Reason.

And now I would know, what it is that is desyred: Is it Peace? I have showed the way (being both willing and desyrous to performe my part in it) which is, a just compliance with all cheefe interests: Is it Plenty and Happiness? they are the inseperable effects of Peace: Is it Security? I, who wish that all Men would forgive and forget lyke me, have offered the Militia for my tyme: Is it liberty of Conscience? He who wants it, is most ready to give it: Is it the right administration of Justice? Officers of trust are committed to the choice of my two Houses of Parliament: Is it frequent Parlements? I have legally, fully concurred therewith: Is it the Arrears of the Army? upon a settlement, they will certainly be payed with much ease; but before, there will be found much difficulty, if not impossibility, in it.

Thus all the World cannot but see my reall and unwearied endeavors for Peace, the which (by the grace of God) I shall nether repent me of. nor ever be slakned in, notwithstanding my past, present, or future sufferings; but, if I may not be heard, let every one judge, who it is that obstructs

the good I would or might doe; What is it that Men are afrayed to heare from me? it cannot be Reason, at least none will declare themselves so unreasonable as to confess it and it can less be, impertinent or unreasonable discourses, for thereby, peradventur I might more justefy this my Restraint, then the causers themselves can doe; so that, of all wonders yet, this is the greatest to me; but it may be easily gatherd how those Men intend to Governe, who have used me thus: And if it be my hard Fate to fall together with the liberty of this Kingdome, I shall not blush for my selfe, but much lament the future miseries of my People, the which I shall still pray to God to avert; whatever becomes of me

CHARLES R.

SOAME JENYNS TO [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1731, June 22. Bottisham.—He yesterday received here the agreeable news that Lady Margaret was married on Thursday last, on which joyful occasion he can by no means omit congratulating his Lordship and Lady Oxford.

VISITORS IN DOVER STREET.

1731, July 12, &c.—A paper endorsed by Lord Oxford "Visitors," containing names, and addresses in most cases, of sixty-four persons, numbered consecutively and the majority marked with a cross—probably callers in Dover Street after Lady Margaret Harley's wedding.

Among them may be noticed:—Robert Harley, Lincolns Inn; Lord Portmore, St. James's Square; Colonel Guye, Dover Street; Dr. Nicolls, Westminster School; Lord St. John, Albemarle Street; Henry Vane, Brook Street; Count Nassau, Albemarle Street; Count Lalack; Lord Chetwynd, Little Grosvenor Street; Lord Morpeth, Soho Square; two Mr. Whaltons, Suffolk Lane and Angel Court; Lord Vane, King Street, Golden Square; Mr. Pelham, Pay Office, Whitehall; Lord Grantham, Albemarle Street; Lord Limerick, Whitehall; Lord Lansdowne, Hanover Square; Lord Foley, Hanover Square; Lord Inchiquin, Grosvenor Street; Lord Pomfret, Hanover Square; Lord Holderness, Pall Mall; Lord Fitzwalter, Pall Mall; Duke of Grafton, Old Bond Street; Lord Delaware, Clifford Street; Lord Thomond, Dover Street; Sir Robert Walpole, St. James' Square; Lord Middleton, Golden Square; Mr. Winnington, Conduit Street; Mr. Boden; Mr. Handel, Brook Street; Sir Robert Sutton, Grosvenor Square; Sir John Evelyn, Duke Street; Mr. Julius Caesar, New Bond Street; Mr. Gutrey, Poland Street; Governor Adams, Cavendish Square; Sir Robert Clifton, Conduit Street; Lord Hervey, St. James's; Marquis Mountandra; Sir John Cotton, Dover Street; Duke of Newcastle, Lincolns Inn Fields; Mr. Gibbs, Henrietta Street; Mr. Southcot, St. James's Square; the Spanish Ambassador, Great Ormond Street; Mr. Walpole; Lord Hardwicke; Dr. Brocksom, Albemarle Street.

DR. J [ONATHAN] SWIFT TO THE EARL OF OXFORD, DOVER STREET.

1731, August 30. Dublin.—You have but a little time to be troubled with me or my letters, for my health is much diminished and my years increased; but in the meanwhile I expect your favour and remembrance; because I have an hereditary right and a long possession. I have some very kind letters by me from my Lord your father, to prove my title, and I do not want one or two from your Lady to confirm it further: all which I am ready to produce, if ever you should offer to dispute the

point in a court of law or equity, not to mention others under your own hand. I am rejoiced to hear that your Lordship hath got over one principal business; to dispose of my Lady Margaret so much to your satisfaction. I knew the Duke's father, who appeared to be a very good-natured man, but somewhat too expensive; and it must please all your friends, that the character you give of the son for his sobriety, good sense, and the affection he is likely to bear to his lady. I am very proud of the justice you do me in allowing me a due share in the chief affairs that relate to your family. I was always a diligent observer of my Lady Margaret, and consequently could not but be an admirer of her virtues which she discovered so early, and so abundantly. You seem now, my Lord, to be eased of the greatest weight that lay upon you. The rest must be left to Providence, which I hope, and shall pray may continue its blessings on your posterity.

Mr. Jebb hath got by the favour of the Archbishop of Dublin a good preferment in the northern parts of this kingdom, where the clergy are best paid. It is above 300*l.* a year. He is a very civil, fair-conditioned gentleman, very modest, and I never heard any objection against him. He is prudent enough to comply with the times, which I know not how he could well avoid, without a virtue too transcendent for this age. Yet I do not hear any marks of his violence in party affairs.

As to the printer, all he has done or will do in the matter is against my will, neither have I concerned myself further with him than to let him know that if he should publish anything offensive or unworthy, as mine, he should have cause to repent it. Further I could not go, for neither printers nor booksellers have any property here as in London. The man is very submissive, and I have no remedy but patience; he hath gotten several copies from my friends, which I suffered them several years ago to take, and I am forced to be passive in what is done with them. In London the things ascribed to me are in the hands of different proprietors, else I could have prevented this evil here. I have put the man under some difficulties by ordering certain things to be struck out after they were printed, which some friends had given him. This hath delayed his work, and as I hear, given him much trouble and difficulty to adjust. Farther I know not, for the whole affair is a great vexation to me.

I am glad to hear Mr. Pope is grown a rambler, because I hope it will be for his health. I fear he hath quite forsaken me, for I have not heard from him many months. His time hath indeed been better employed in his Moral Poems, which excel in their kind, and may be very useful. In his last translation out of Horace, I could willingly have excused his placing me not in that light which I would appear, and others are of my opinion, but it gives me not the least offence, because I am sure he had not the least ill intention, and how much I have always loved him, the world as well as your Lordship is convinced.

Nothing in so wretched and enslaved a nation as this can be worth entertaining your Lordship with; it is a mass of beggars, thieves, oppressors, fools and knaves. All employments are in the hands of the kingdom's enemies. In this great city nine tenths of the inhabitants are beggars; the chief streets half ruinous or desolate. It is dangerous to walk the streets for fear of houses falling on our heads, and it is the same in every city and town through the Island. You have twenty merchants in London who could each of them purchase our whole cash. Two of our chief bankers have broke for near two hundred thousand pounds, and others are leaving off their business. Yet, this town is a

paradise compared to every part of the country, except some northern parts, supported by the linen trade, which however is decaying fast by the knavery of the dealers. Yet I must be content to die among such a people, with whom it may however be said it is better to die than live.

But what is all this to your Lordship or to England ?

It is a great deal to the latter, for your wealth is completed by your tyranny and oppression here. You see my old murmurings are not yet ceased, but it is the same thing as if they were; because I am now grown desperate, and have nothing to do but rail with a very few friends in a safe corner of the house. Pardon all this impertinence my good Lord, and so I conclude with my most humble respects to my Lady Oxford, and the young happy Duke and Duchess: for I may be so free with his Grace, since his being incorporated into your family.

EDWARD HARLEY, the Auditor, to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1734, November 29. Eywood.—One of the enclosed papers is the translation of a letter from the Protestants in the French Gallies directed to your father which lately came to my hands from one of those who had endured those cruel sufferings by the space of seven thousand three hundred days. I confess I read this letter with an inexpressible joy; for the deliverance of these martyrs (who had by a divine fortitude overcome the rage of their cruel persecutors) was a more glorious triumph to the Queen and her first Minister than ever was enjoyed by any of the Roman Cæsars. The other is a copy of my letter to Lady Marlborough writ by Lord Oxford's directions to be shewed to the Queen, which was occasioned by the obstinate refusal of the Court of France to comply with the Queen's demand; this affair was negotiated by Mr. Prior, and managed with such resolution and dexterity by the directions he received from your father that at last the King of France was brought to comply, notwithstanding the great opposition made by the Jesuits. I cannot but hope you will find among Mr. Prior's and Lord Oxford's papers some account of this transaction. Mr. Prior often spoke to me about this affair, and surely he has left some papers that relate thereto.

I have from Serres, who has signed the letter, a very full account of the artifices of Ponchartrín and the Jesuits to destroy them even after they were discharged from the galleys, upon which Mr. Prior was directed to demand an audience of the King, who severely rebuked the Intendant, saying, How dare you attempt to make me violate my promise to a Lady ?

In the little conversation that I have had with the Duchess of Portland I always perceived she was extremely pleased to know anything that related to her grandfather, if you think fit you will be pleased to transmit a copy of it to her, for I think a higher honour could never be enjoyed by any Minister of State: but even this is made one of the articles of impeachment (see the fourth additional article) by those who pretended so much zeal for the Protestant religion, but lived in a contempt of all the precepts of Christianity.

I have at my leisure hours run over Burnet's History, which is the most false, partial, and imperfect work of the kind I ever read, yet I think a proper use may be made of it, and the invidious and false reflections he makes upon Lord Oxford are a fresh inducement to your Lordship to collect his papers and letters together: the transactions of his life justly stated would be the most honourable monument that was

ever erected to any Minister of State ; and if these papers were put together I think I could propose a person to your Lordship who has integrity and ability sufficient to reduce them into method.*

DR. J [ONATHAN] SWIFT TO [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1734-5, January 6. Dublin.—The bearer of this letter, Mr. Hugh Lorinan, has an appeal to be tried before the House of Lords this ensuing session. An eminent person in the law here, and an intimate friend of mine upon the score of virtue, learning, and superior knowledge in his own profession, did earnestly recommend his case to me, as the most equitable he ever knew, assuring me that Mr. Lorinan hath long suffered by the injustice, fraud, and oppression of his adversaries. I therefore humbly desire your Lordship will please to attend his appeal, if your other affairs will permit you. The person who recommended him to me is now a very eminent judge, but was then only one of the chief lawyers.

DR. J [JOHN] COLBATCH TO [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1734-5, February 1. Orwell.—A petition is getting ready to be laid before your House praying for an order to enforce the sentence which the Bishop of Ely hath passed upon Dr. Bentley, which the Doctor and his accomplices have hitherto eluded with great contempt, notwithstanding its having been passed in pursuance of a judgment given by your Lordships ; so that Trinity College is still left under all its grievances, without a remedy, unless your Lordships shall think fit to interpose your authority, for, as the lawyers tell us, no relief is to be expected from the inferior Courts.

I do not pretend on this occasion to importune you for justice or to implore your compassion for an unhappy Society ; many signal instances of your readiness to exert the one and the other have prevented my troubling you with entreaties of this sort. But my humble request is that you will use your good offices with your noble relations and friends, to the end that they may be present in the House when this petition shall be read there.

Until some such order as is prayed for be obtained there will be a total failure of justice in a matter which is not altogether of a private concernment, but of some importance to the public.

I know not whether it will become me to add that since the Bishop [of Ely] proceeded as directed by your Lordships in your judicial capacity, you may find yourselves particularly obliged in this case to see that his sentence be duly executed, to support his authority being in effect to assert and vindicate your own.

GEO. VERTUE TO THE EARL OF OXFORD.

1735, May 29.—I beg to acknowledge the favour of putting into my hands and care the printed book of sea charts explaining the Spanish invasion, 1588, with the several engagements and days' actions, the defeat and confusion of the Spaniards, much to the honour and glory of the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

As this copy is the only one known to have been preserved, and is fairly illuminated with the Queen's arms and the Lord Admiral's arms on each plate, I presume it was a work done at the sole charge and expense of that noble Lord Howard of

* The concluding paragraph of this letter only is in Auditor Harley's handwriting.

Ellingham], to hand to posterity the remembrance of those great and heroic actions.

The intention of your Lordship's favour to me was to assist and illustrate those designs in the House of Lords that are to be engraved from the tapestries. And indeed I may truly say to illustrate, for yesterday I went with Mr. Pine to the House of Lords to compare your book with the tapestries, when I soon found that without this book the Act of Parliament would have been of little use to Pine, for he could not make out some of the hangings, which are explained in the book, as they have been shortened or cut off to fit the place, as by a little scheme I have made and sent herewith may be made a little more intelligible.

[Virtue here draws a sketch of the throne-room in the House of Lords, showing the position of the tapestries. The letter concludes by proposing certain additions to Lord Oxford's volume, such as portraits, engravings of medals struck on the occasion, &c.]

FR[ANCIS] DRAKE to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1735, July 16. At the Anchor in York Street, Covent Garden.—On the progress made with the printing, &c. of his "Eboracum." The MS. of Fountains which he had put into his Lordship's hands might now remain there, and at his own price. He had offered one of his books in large paper for it, and expected it would be accepted.

FR[ANCIS] PECK to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1735, July 17. Godeby, near Melton.—You were pleased to say that I should be welcome to print any manuscript or paper which you had in your library. I never saw any catalogue of your MSS., but I have recollected that you are possessed of Mr. John Bagford's Papers upon Printing, and I think nothing would better fall in with my title of "Desiderata Curiosa" than a collection of that sort. It is a subject I fancy, and have some knowledge in. If you would therefore oblige me with those papers, I should take a particular pleasure to methodise and publish them in that manner you should most approve of.

Another thing I beg leave just to mention, that if you want a librarian I should rejoice to serve your Lordship on your own terms.

JONATH[AN] SWIFT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1735, September 2. Dublin.—I received the honour of your Lordship's letter from the hands of Mr. Jebb, who is gone to his church living in a remote northerly part of this kingdom, yet worth 450*l.* per annum, which will maintain him as well as twice the value in England. He told me he had got a wife, with a fortune that will here be considerable, but I think she is still in England, and he intends to go fetch her. As to my health, my Lord, it is of very little consequence at my time of life, neither dare I venture a journey to England. I have here a large convenient house, I can afford to keep three horses, and ride a dozen miles two or three times a week, but dare not go further for fear of that vertigo which always pursues me more or less. And I cannot now bear the common hardships of travelling, nor live in a dear scurvy London lodging, nor afford to keep three horses and two servants there.

nor give my evening friends a bottle of wine, nor have any friends to give it to. The miseries of this country have sunk my little revenue 300*l.* a year; yet with good management I still make a shift to keep up, and am not poor, nor even moneyless. I converse with three or four men of worth, but I do not stoop so low as to be visited by Irish Lords, or Bishops. I dine often like a king, by myself—my chicken and pint of French wine is my dinner, and costs me eighteen pence; yet I spend six hogsheads every year, which some of my Prebendaries and a few other cheerful clergymen, and two or three honest learned or ingenious laymen sponge from me at noon or evening. I often ride out in fair weather, with one of my servants laden with a joint of meat and bottle of wine, and town bread, which attend me to some rural parson five or six miles round this town. And thus I patch up life, and will not desire your Lordship's pardon, as you do mine for telling me of your domestic affairs, wherein I have a very good title to be informed, on account of the constant favours I have received from my Lord your father as well as yourself and my Lady Oxford. I had always the greatest esteem for my Lady Kinnoull, and yet mingled with the greatest commiseration, because I never was so deceived in any man as in her Lord, whom I exceedingly loved in the Queen's time. But without offence to your Lordship, my opinion of him for several years past hath been wholly changed. I hope my Lord Dupplin will have it in his power and his resolution to comfort his mother. I can tell from report that my Lady Duchess was safely brought to bed of a daughter. The Auditor I think was always of a weak constitution, but he is very happy in a son, and his grandchildren. Does your Lordship hear that Mr. Thomas Harley keeps his former cheerfulness? We old bachelors are used to grow peevish in solitude. The account you give of the Duke of Leeds pleaseth me extremely, and upon the whole I believe there are not three families in England so generally blessed from Heaven as your Lordship's; nor more deservedly. I pray God continue those blessings both here and hereafter.

This letter will be given you by Faulkner the printer, who never sees me without overflowings of gratitude for your Lordship's great condescension and favours to him. I was indeed a little angry, but more grieved, to see four volumes called my works printed at all in Ireland; but as the man assured my friends, and as it was generally known that some hedge printer would have done the like, and mix them with other people's trash, my friends advised him to it, and he submitted to all their corrections, and to leave out what they thought proper, for I could not hinder him; but I am ashamed of your House of Lords, who could not, or perhaps would not, punish such a profligate villain as Curll, who hath murdered so many poets for thirty years past. Neither was it wise in your Lords' House to provoke a person of Mr. Pope's genius, if he had a mind to be satirical, and, in his heart I believe he is as little fond of the age as your Lordship or myself. I desire to present my most humble service to my Lady Oxford, I carry in my pockets the presents her Ladyship made me, and which at least are worth a hundred pounds, all given in absence, which circumstance from such a lady makes them worth at least an hundred times more. Your Lordship must also present my most humble service to the Duke of Leeds and the Duchess of Portland. I saw and knew the Duke of Leeds at Oxford nine years ago, and he was then allowed to be a very hopeful lad, rather than youth. Pray God preserve your Lordship, and all your family, kindred, and allies.

JOHN ANSTIS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1735, November 17. Mortlake.—When inspecting Mr. Drake's collections for the city of York, I asked if he had ever met with the Register books of Fountains, Ripon, St Oswald's or Nostell. His answer was that he had put the Register of Fountains into your Lordship's custody, and he was very willing that I might have the loan of it for some days. It shall be carefully returned with thanks.

GEO. VERTUE to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1735, November 24.—Had been to the Rainbow Coffee house, Ironmonger Lane, Cheapside, and seen the print of the old man William Walker. One of them was hung up in the coffee-room, and he was told that it and another were all that were brought to London. At bottom was written :—"C. Leigh *pinx. ari incidee capit.* Sold by Wm. Clayton, Bookseller in Manchester, 1735."

For the Commonwealth piece, the one *guarded with angels*, which his Lordship desired to have, no less than four guineas would be taken, an extravagant price, in the writer's poor judgment.

[*Overleaf is drawn a faint outline of the figure in the print referred to, over which Vertue has written :—"About this size in this manner," and "Slightly etched."*]

F[RAISOIS] PECK to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1736, July 2. Godeby, near Melton.—I am now transcribing a great collection of letters which passed between Charles II. and his friends in England during his exile, in all 246 letters, among which 25 of Lord Chancellor Hyde's, whereby that dark affair of the Restoration will be perfectly cleared up and set in a very different light from what it at present appears in. If you have anything in your vast collections relating either to that or to the life of Mr. Nicholas Ferrar of Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire, whose remarkable life I have now ready for the press, and will please to communicate it, you will thereby lay a very great obligation upon me.

PATRICK GUTHRIE to JAMES GIBBS, Esq., Henrietta Street,
over against Oxford Chapel.

1736, August 10. Boulogne-sur-Mer.—My Lord Barnard and I liked your French white wine so well that we resolved to taste it in the country, and therefore we set out next morning for France. I entertained him in the way with a sight of the Docks and some other curiosities, particularly Dean Wotton's statue in fine marble done by an Italian. He was the first Protestant Dean of Canterbury. From Dover we came to Calais, and from Calais to Boulogne. This is a good pleasant country, a fine healthful air, provisions here are good and cheap, we have fine hares, fine turkeys, fine quails, fine partridge, fine mutton, most admirable pork, and excellent claret and champagne to digest them. My Lord Barnard remembers you often with this claret and sometimes cites Mr. Gibbs his authority at Edgecombe as a precedent for another bottle. You and I could live cheap and agreeably in this country; there is good society here. But great Lords cannot live upon a very little money anywhere, they can do it less in a very little town than in a very great one. My Lord Barnard and I spend

more money here than in London, though things are vastly cheaper here, but we eat more, drink more, divert ourselves more, and have more company. However I am pleased, because my Lord improves daily both in mind and body. I hope to bring him over to England a very fine gentleman by Michaelmas. If I could afford to carry him to Paris a little, which he much inclines, I would bring him back to England more improved, and with finer airs than any of your *petits-mâtres*. I do assure you we are much more considered and respected here, both by French and English, than we are at home by our own friends and relations, which verifies a saying in a good wise Book that a Prophet has no honour in his own country: but this Book I suppose you are little acquainted with. How would you like to walk twelve or fourteen miles every day over hills and mountains? as my Lord and I do; it would bring down your fat sides purely.

I beg the favour of you to take the first opportunity to wait upon my Lord Oxford, and to present him my Lord Barnard's compliments and my most humble duty and cordial respects. I shall trouble him with a letter in a little time. When I left London I found Mr. Tailour involved in business, and so slow in our affairs that there was but little appearance of anything being finished this summer. I therefore thought proper not to stifle my Lord to no purpose in London in the heat of summer, and to be out of the way of hearing. My good Lord Oxford, who was the only one of our trustees in town, came over here for two or three months.

My Lord Vane rid several times post through this town. I did not see him. I hear he is gone from Calais to London. He was in search of his wife, and had forty or fifty people riding over France in quest of her. I hear she run from him at Paris with one of the Shirleys, who carried her to Brussels; he came post here as a courier, hired a ship, one Mirlton master, for Dover, but went to Ostend, where he landed, from thence went to Brussels and brought my Lady Vane to Ostend, and thence carried her to London in Mirlton's ship. I pity that poor unhappy Lord; if he lives a few years he will be a beggar. The only wise thing he could do would be to get his marriage annulled, put his estate into the hands of trustees, and entail it to the next heirs. I shall be glad to hear from you, and to have a little of your news. On this side of the water we take you to be all mad. If I bring my Lord well home, which I hope I shall, I intend to set up for a very eminent mad doctor. I am sure I cannot want practice in England, but before I set the nation right I believe I must transplant a great many. Direct for me:—A Monsieur Guthrie, Gentilhomme Anglois, chez Monsieur Ch. Smith, Marchand à Boulogne-sur-Mer en France.

[Enclosed in an envelope addressed to the Earl of Oxford. Two other letters of the same writer, one to Lord Oxford, dated October 3 and October 20, are annexed.]

THE REV. THOMAS BAKER to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1736, November 4. Cambridge.—Has received from his cousin Burton some original letters concerning the Craggs family, of Wolsingham, in the county of Durban, lying near Burton's estate. That family is yet much in the dark, not altogether so obscure as has been represented, but yet mean enough in its beginning. Most of the letters are addressed to Mr. Aisley, parson of Wolsingham, a near relation,

[THE REV. THOMAS BAKER TO THE EARL OF OXFORD].

1736-37, February 10. Cambridge.—I send up by Lord Dupplin some curious papers which, being originals and concerning the town of Cambridge, where your Lordship deservedly presides, I hope will be acceptable. They come from Mr. Butler, of Barnwell, who is full of gratitude for your favours, and wishes he had anything better to offer in return. He had them from the late Town Clerk, Mr. Fran. Webb, who had reason to be ashamed of them.

I was sorry to hear of Mr. West's loss by fire at the Temple. Among other MSS. I am told he purchased Mr. Strype's MS. letters, &c. ; if they be consumed I have a large volume of copies of many of these letters (most to Lord Burghley) which Mr. Strype allowed me to take. They will now be more valuable if the originals be lost ; and will at my death (which I hope is not far off) be offered to your Lordship's acceptance.

I doubt not you had the curiosity to observe the epitaph of Mrs. Anne Robinson, daughter of Mr. Anthony Craggs, sister to the Secretary, in the late "London Daily Post," Feb. 4, which may give some light to her father's burial, though there be some ambiguity in it. It is the same Anne Robinson that gave a monument to her mother at Wolsingham, and if her other brother Ferdinando be yet surviving he will have lost his best support, unless Lady Cotton, &c. will take care of him. Did the Secretary leave a will? otherwise Ferdinando must have come in for a share.

J[ONATHAN] SWIFT TO [THE EARL OF OXFORD].

1737, November 26. Dublin.—I have not for several years troubled your Lordship with an Irish cause. But I could not refuse the bearer of this letter, my Lady Riverston, who will deliver you her case, which is allowed to be a very hard one. What she humbly desires of your Lordship is that you will please to attend when it comes before your House, because I remember very well how hard it used to be to get a number of peers to trouble themselves with any thing referred to them from Ireland. My Lady Riverston is descended from a very ancient noble family, and very deserving in herself. Her ancestors were of the old English who reduced this kingdom to be subjects to England, and her Ladyship is a firm Protestant.

I am constantly enquiring after your Lordship's and my Lady Oxford's and the Duchess's health from my few remaining correspondents in London. Pray God continue to them all long life and health, and the love of all deserving persons. I am grown altogether weary of the world by my years and infirmities, and hourly fretted to the heart by the course of public proceedings in both kingdoms, which cannot be matched by the greatest corruptions in Rome or Greece. But it is some comfort that your Lordship still retains the virtue of your ancestors.

LORD OXFORD'S TOUR IN EASTERN COUNTIES.

1737, Wednesday, December 28.—Mr. West and I set out in my chariot about eight o'clock towards Chelmsford ; we were obliged to stop at a little nasty house called Hare Street, famous for cakes. The wheels being new they began to fire. We drove to Ingatestone ; the wheels grew worse here ; we stopped, and Mr. West and I took a walk

to my Lord Petre's house, Ingatstone Hall, a very good, large, convenient old house, good gardens. It was built originally by Sir Wm. Petre, who was Secretary of State to Queen Mary, and raised the family. A very good, a mighty pleasant country, a pretty walk to the church, where the family are buried, several monuments—but in decay. This lord is a great lover of exotic plants, and it is said he is one of the best botanists in England. From thence we went to Chelmsford, leaving Moulsham, my Lord Fitzwalter's, on the right. This town is much rebuilt of late years; a very good church; my Lord Fitzwalter is one of the churchwardens: the churchyard is well planted; the walks gravelled; this is the mall for the ladies of this town. There is in this town a conduit for water, which runs constantly out of three spouts: never fails, and fine water it is. There are the Duke of Albemarle's arms, and the Fitzwalter's, I suppose they contributed to bring it there from springs about a mile from the town. We lay at the Ipswich Arms, but an indifferent inn. The next day we proceeded, and about a mile and half we went to see the ruins of New Hall: we went up the fine avenue of lime trees; the house is all uncovered, all the floors taken up and sold; all the chimney pieces. There remains still in the chapel a fine painted window, which is entire and of fine workmanship; it was preserved by what destroys other things; the ivy grew so high that it quite covered it, that the people could not see to break it. A gentleman lately went and found it; it is now to be graved. Mr. Hoare that bought it has built a house about three quarters of a mile from it, near the road, and has placed it so that he has no benefit of the fine avenue nor the noble fir grove, the finest I ever saw. Such is the fine taste of a banker in Fleet Street. He has laid out above twelve thousand, and had eight been laid out upon the old house when he first bought it he would have had one of the best houses in England. From thence we proceeded through a very fine country, over excellent roads, to the famous town of Colchester, a very extraordinary place. The castle now standing was built by the Romans; it is nobly arched underneath, several attempts have been [made] to pull it down, but it has proved too strong for them. Here are fourteen churches; the place is very populous. I went to see the church where Sir John Lucas and Sir Charles Lisle were buried, the inscription is cut very deep in an uncommon manner.

We dined here at an exceeding good inn, from whence we went to Ipswich. The next morning we took a walk up to Christchurch, it is now sold to one Mr. Fenerow, the son of a Hamburg merchant, the fine bowling green is quite destroyed, the park ill kept; he has repaired the house. Sir Wm. Barker's house is sold to an attorney; there are a great many people that have got money and left off trade come and live here; the place is extremely pleasant and healthy.

Thence we took our way to Diss, through the road called the Pye, which would have been a very difficult piece of road had not the frost bore. This brought us to the worst town and to the worst inn, for there was not meat nor drink nor beds for Christians to make use of: our supper was a crop of pork, beef steaks as black as a shoe and as tough, sweetbreads the gull broken, and most miserable; but wine, I had of my own and well it was; the beds were in proportion to the supper.

Next morning we took a walk to see an attorney who has collected many MSS., and very good ones, and many other curious things. From thence we went towards Thetford: in our way we saw Euston, the Duke of Grafton's, the park is pretty well, the house very indifferent, the furniture old and bad, the

pictures very poor and mean. I was much disappointed both as to the house and the pictures I had heard so much of from several persons, it would if it were possible make one resolve not upon hearing the description of any place to raise one's expectations nor form ideas, that when one comes to the place fall much short of what was imagined.

We lay at Thetford two little miles from Euston Hall, the inn pretty tolerable, the town poor and mean, much decayed, many houses falling down. From thence, January 1, we went to Sawflam (Swaffham), a good inn. Famous this town is for the church, said that the tower and one of the aisles were built by a pedlar, there is an old piece of carving that represents the pedlar and his dog and his wife, I do not doubt the thing, but the story of his dream I much question. From this place after dinner we went to Houghton, we set up at the inn Sir Robert had built, after we had been there half an hour my Lord Walpole sent his steward to invite me down, and that he had ordered his chariot to bring me down. I made several excuses, but the man was to take no denial, so when the chariot came we went. My Lord received us at the door with great civility; we were conducted above where there was much company Sir H. Be. and Mr. B., some officers, etc. About nine we went to supper had a very good one; was conducted to bed as my Lord said for the first time, lay in a most excellent bed. We breakfasted in the Hunting apartment, that room where Horace W's picture is. The next day we went about the house and all over the stables and those offices which are all built since you was there, they are extremely handsome and convenient beyond what I have seen. About eleven my Lord drove me in his chair all round the park and the plantations, which are very fine and thriving extremely, and in a very few years as for example five years it will not be known, and all these plantations are from what Sir Robert sowed himself; I saw his water, which is very fine and holds [*blank.*]

Upon our return home we went and saw all the offices and cellars, all the house is arched from end to end, all the conveniencies are made that can be thought of, the several people of all within themselves, the cook has all within himself [*Imperfect.*]

GEORGE VERTUE to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1737-38, February 24.—Some time ago I related to your Lordship how some lines said to be writ by Milton on a glass window were sent to Mr. Richardson, and they are now printed in Milton's works now ready to be published. By a letter I saw last night in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Birch, the whole discovery is made that Mr. Pope and Lord Chesterfield (if I mistake not) had laid this bait for the Connoisseur, who swallowed it, and entertained his intimates with great pleasure many times concerning his knowledge of Milton's pen and style, which he pronounced he knew with the greatest certainty. I could wish your Honour had been in view of Richardson when this discovery was made a day or two ago only. In short, they are obliged to reprint the sheet in the book in a hurry, it being to be published next Monday.

ANASTASIA COUNTESS OF PETERBOROUGH to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1738, April 17. Padwell.—Congratulating him and Lady Oxford on the happy occasion of their daughter, the Duchess of Portland, giving birth to a son, and being in so prosperous a way.

WILL [IAM] WHISTON to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1738, April 29. Fleet Street.—Suggesting the purchase of a manuscript entitled *Margarita Pretiosa seu mirabiles Libri in sacri montis cavernis sanctis reperti a Pe. Bartholomeo de Pectorano*, belonging to the learned daughter of Dr. Lee, who published one of the volumes of Dr. Graves' Septuagint. This daughter, who had married one M. de la Fontaine, a Roman Catholic, was obliged by want to part with it. The manuscript in the custody of the writer at his son's, John Whiston, a bookseller, at Mr. Boyle's Head, Fleet Street.

[THE EARL OF OXFORD to DR. JONATHAN SWIFT.]

1738, May 30.—Good Master Dean, I return you many thanks for your kind remembrance of my family and your humble servant in your obliging letter which you was pleased to send me by Mr. Richardson. I should have made my acknowledgments for your present of medals, which are curious, but the expressions in your letter are more valuable than cabinets of the [blank]. As to my family the state is this, my daughter is just recovered of lying in child bed of a son, and a brave boy he is, his name William Henry Cavendish, baptised by my nephew Robert Hay. My daughter has two girls, the eldest's name is Elizabeth, the other Henrietta, all healthy fine children. My daughter desires your acceptance of her humble [duty?], she assures me she has not forgotten you, and as a proof of it she often talks of you with Mrs. Pandarvis.

Mr. Thomas Harley died the beginning of January last, left his estate to Mr. Edward Harley and 3000*l.* to my sister Kinnoull's children in trust that it may not be come at by Lord Kinnoull. Mr. Edward Harley has five sons and one daughter, four of his sons are at Westminster School and do very well. Mr. Harley desires you will accept of his most humble service. My wife is pretty well, she is troubled with your distemper, deafness; I hope a journey to the Bath next autumn will do her great service. I see our friend Mr. Lewis sometimes. I told him that you mentioned him in your letter; he desires his hearty respects to you, he wishes you and him were nearer together. The letter you received from Mr. Lewis lately was wrote with my privacy and indeed desire, and is truly my sentiment. As to the Duke of Ormonde I take it for granted there is nothing in it.

Thus I have given you an account of all the family. I thank God I enjoy my health very well. I am much concerned that you have so many complaints. *Draft.*

WILLIAM MAITLAND to the EARL OF OXFORD, Dover Street.

1738, June 13. Poultry.—Pursuant to my promise at Pontae's, on 30 November last, I have endeavoured at least twenty times to wait on your Lordship at your house in Dover Street for some accounts of your valuable library and parish of St. Mary-le-bone, whereby I might, in my History of London, have been enabled to transmit your Lordship's fine taste to posterity. But since by my being so often denied admission to you I am rendered unable to perform what I intended for your honour, it is a very great concern to your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant.

J. WAINWRIGHT to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1738, June 24. Dublin.—The best news I can send you from Ireland is of Lord Orrery's match ; a young lady who has an estate of 2,400*l.* a year, and 12,000*l.*, has made him her choice. Her name is Hamilton.

The Dean of St. Patrick's involves himself sometimes in such strange, improper, insignificant oppositions to matters of a public nature, that, by hanging out black flags and putting his bells in mourning, he makes it impossible for one in my station to converse much with him. Besides he is much and often out of order, and beset with odd persons who command every thing that he says, writes, or does, and every letter or paper that he has. This fact is certainly so.

J[ONATHAN] RICHARDSON to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1738, June 27.—Has put into the account the picture of the Lord Treasurer, on a whole length of which nothing is done but the face ; it is only mentioned till he has the honour of further commands.

A TOUR IN KENT, SUSSEX, and HAMPSHIRE.

1738, September 2 19.—A small quarto manuscript of about forty pages, in the handwriting of George Vertue, describing a tour through the above counties made by himself in company with the Earl and Countess of Oxford, Mrs. Cæsar, and “two young masters, Edward and Robert Harley—in two coaches, with attendants, gentlemen, and servants.” Brief descriptions of Rochester and Canterbury are given, and through Sandwich, Deal, &c. they reach Waldershare House, Sir H. Furnese's, in which they saw many pictures by Italian and other artists. From Deal they had a view of Calais, “the land and town, steeples, white rocks, and coast of France.” Dover is noted as long, poor, and straggling, with harbour, pier, ships, and packet boats, about 60 or 70 tons the largest. They saw one of the latter of 30 tons go off to Calais. With fair wind, the passage there would take three hours, but seldom less than six or seven hours coming back, on account of the tide. The castle, except the Governor's lodging, was “decayed, demolished, ruinated ;” no roof on the church. Every house in Calais could be seen from there with a telescope.

From Dover they went by Hythe, New Romney, to Rye, afterwards ascending by degrees a “prodigious high hill,” where stood Farley (Fairlight) church, “a very old little church, small windows, and those shut up with bricks, no light but one window at the west end.” The party dined at Hastings at the “Swan,” and Vertue draws in the margin of the page a sketch of an ancient font in St. Clement's Church there. From there they visited Battle Abbey, and then went on to Pevensey and Eastbourne, where the Earl of Wilmington had a seat. Over the hills from there they got to Lewes, a pretty town, well inhabited, where assemblies were kept in a handsome house and a large room, and many neighbouring gentry came once a week. “From thence to a little poor place or house amongst the mountains where the gentlemen sportsmen met in hunting seasons, called Findon, nothing remarkable but a deep well,” but a sketch is made of an ancient font in the church there. Passing by Bramber Castle and Stanstead House, where we observed numerous portraits, and modern tapestries done in Flanders, representing the actions of King William, Marlborough, and Eugene, “with men and horses big as the life finely coloured.”

The paintings, &c. at Goodwood, Tichfield, Petworth and Cowdray are afterwards briefly described. Cowdray is said to be a quadrangular building of stone, in the middle a fountain of small brass figures spouting water continually, the hall set round with stags, the painting lately done by Lewis Goupy, the staircase lately painted by Pelegrini.

Chichester is described as a pleasant fair city, and a sketch is given of the ancient cross there "in the middle of four great cross streets"; the cathedral spacious and noble, many monuments, some ancient paintings behind the screen. By Portsmouth the travellers went to Southampton, two miles from whence is noticed the beautiful situation of Padwell house and gardens, "a late purchase of the Earl of Peterborough, who left it to his lady."

An account of Winchester cathedral closes the narrative. The cathedral, monuments, library and school are said to have been preserved from plunder and destruction during the Civil Wars by Mr. Love, the commanding officer there under Cromwell. Love had been educated at the school, and had then taken oath to preserve and defend it; and to his great honour and the public good had honestly maintained his word.

The party returned to London by way of Farnham and Staines, the estimated distance they had travelled in eighteen days being 348 miles.

On a separate paper in a different handwriting are recorded the places at which they baited during the day or lay at night, with the names of the inns and their respective landlords at each place.

WILLIAM OLDYS to the EARL OF OXFORD, at Bulstrode, by
Gerrards Cross.

1738, December 19. Grays Inn.—I found the manuscripts valued as I expected most unreasonably, and though, after a great deal of contention I got near ten pounds "bated" in the eight volumes, and am satisfied I could not bring them lower, I am yet in doubt whether I shall not hazard your Lordship's displeasure for consenting to give so much, though I am certain I have incurred the bookseller's, in making him descend so far below his expectations. Sir Richard Grosvenor wanted some of them.

Enclosures.

A list of eight manuscript Volumes valued by Thos. Osborne at 25*l.* 19*s.*, and by Oldys at 16*l.* 4*s.* Among them are:—Short description of Nottinghamshire; Dr. Plot's Defence of the Earl Marshal's Court; Description of Pembrokeshire by G. Owen, 1603; and Ancient Transcripts of Crammer's Letters, &c.

A receipt signed "Tho Osborne" for 16*l.* 4*s.* for the same manuscripts, and dated December 20.

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1738, December 21. Grays Inn.—On the same subject. Had paid for the manuscripts before his Lordship's bill arrived, because he perceived it would be a kindness to the man.

GEORGE VERTUE to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1738-9, February 8.—Returns his Lordship's book of King Arthur's Knights, by Caxton. A picture of Secretary Walsingham is to be sold

to-morrow at the Lady Fitzwalter's in Grosvenor Street. Another picture, of . . . [torn] Sydney—a painting in oil, not large—is to be sold on Saturday, which he could wish to be in his Lordship's possession.

WILLIAM OLDYS to the EARL OF OXFORD.

1739, May 22. Grays Inn.—Quotes a passage in his Life of Sir Walter Raleigh about a debate in the House of Commons in 1591, when a proposition was made, in order to proportion a tax for maintaining the wars, “That a survey should be taken of all men's lands in England.” This Sir Walter opposed, and a summary of his arguments, taken from Sir Symonds D' Ewes's Journals, is given in the Life.

Has been told, however, that the project of registering estates, in the shape that has since been aimed at, was first broached under Cromwell, and revived in a pamphlet not long after the Restoration under some author's name. Both these seem to argue for the project, and Philips is the only author who rejects it, for the manifold mischiefs and inconveniences of it. Seven years after Philips's book was printed, that is in 1678, came out in quarto a pamphlet entitled “Reasons for a Registry,” showing the benefits and advantages of it. And in 1694, a like treatise showing how useful the enrolling and registering all conveyances of land may be. These, with Asgill's tract, also in favour thereof, are all that can be found on this head; but the writer will continue his pursuit of such of them, or any other, as his Lordship shall direct.

A TOUR through ESSEX, SUFFOLK, and NORFOLK.

1739, June 18—July —. — A quarto manuscript of 32 folios in the handwriting of George Vertue, and signed “G. V.” on the title page and at the end, containing notes made by him when making the above tour in company with Lord Coleraine.

Through Tottenham, Ilford, Chelmsford, Braintree, and Bocking they came on the second day to Gosfield Hall, where was noticed “over the chimney in the library an antique bas-relievo cut in stone, representing the battle of Bosworth field,” lately brought from Halsted, the house called Rogers Hall, by Mr. Knight who rebuilt Gosfield Hall. Vertue gives a copy of the inscription on the “monument of marble statues” erected by Mrs. Knight (who was a daughter of James Craggs the elder) in Gosfield church in memory of her husband, who died in 1733, aged 50. The lines thereon are said to be by Pope, and the monument itself the work of Rysbrack. Vertue adds that the lady who had erected the monument at no small expense soon married again, one Nugent an Irish gentleman, and since that had ordered it to be enclosed, as it then was, with a wainscot screen to shut it off from her sight when she went to church, which however she seldom did.

Notes on monuments, &c. in the church of Castle Henningham, and St. Peter's and St. Gregory's churches in Sudbury. Enclosed in the wall of the vestry of the latter church, with small iron grates before it, they saw plainly the head of Archbishop Simon Sudbury, beheaded in Wat Tyler's insurrection. Of this head and grating a sketch is drawn in the manuscript. By Long Melford Bury [St. Edmunds] is reached “a large town, well inhabited, a good market, fine streets, houses, inns, &c., good trade, and very agreeable.” In Redgrave church they saw the monument to Sir Nicholas Bacon and his Lady, and from there visited Thomas Martin of Palgrave, “a

brother antiquary", who had a curious and valuable gathering of scarce books, seals, deeds, autograph letters, original proclamations, coins, pictures, arms, chartularies and manuscripts of many kinds, also great collections towards the history of Suffolk and Norfolk.

Swaffham is noted as a pretty open pleasant town; connected with the large and spacious church there was a remarkable story of a tinker or pedlar who built the north aisle, in a window of which on painted glass was a picture of him and his wife now almost defaced. He, his wife, and dog were also carved on a wooden screen, but poorly done, and a gothic inscription of their names, John and Katrine Langham, cut in the wood, but then scarcely legible.

From thence was visited Sir Andrew Fountaine's house at Narford, the remarkable contents of which are described at much length, including the pictures, the "most rare cabinet of earthenware painted gilded and adorned, with great beauty and variety of ancient Italian designs and painting from Raphael, Jul. Romano, del Sarto, and other famous masters of that age, being vases of beautiful shapes and colours. . . all these are in a room ranged in the most elegant and delightful order possibly imagined. Another room was adorned with great variety of china ware for all necessary uses and ornaments, only blue and white."

The next place of interest visited was Sir Robert Walpole's seat of Houghton; the pictures there are very fully catalogued by Vertue. By Castle Rising they got to Lynn, where at the house of Alderman Goodwin, the Mayor, they saw the cup and great sword of King John. Vertue gives drawings of these, but suggests that the sword was more likely of Henry the Eighth's time.

The church of Walpole St. Peter's (of which Vertue makes a very pretty drawing) is noted as extraordinary for length, breadth and height for a country parish church, and many details are given about the structure. From Walpole, where they stayed some days (visiting in the time Wisbech, and West Walton church the detached bell-tower of which is well sketched by Vertue), Lord Coleraine having a small residence there, Vertue intended setting out for Spalding to see his "friend and brother antiquary, Mr. Maurice Johnson," but an accident prevented it.

The account of these travels comes to an end with folio 20 of the manuscript. The latter part is filled with a catalogue of the pictures at Houghton, already referred to, followed by a similar list of Sir Robert Walpole's pictures in his house at Whitehall, the number of which appears to be even greater than of those at Houghton. Some works of art in Soho Square, in the houses of Lord Bateman and Mr. Bagnal, are described in the last three pages of the manuscript.

WILLIAM OLDYS to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1739, July 12. Gray's Inn.—Upon the enquiry you were pleased to make some time ago, whether there were any good manuscripts left of Sir H. St. George's collection, I took the occasion to ask my neighbour [Thos. Osborne?] what he had remaining of them. He told me above 150 volumes, and that the owner might be willing to part with them all together, much below their value, as he reckoned 100*l.* would be. But when I asked if he would let me have half a dozen, or half a score, at a guinea a piece, which in proportion is half as much again for the whole, he seemed to boggle at that.

He then put a paper into my hand which is part of a catalogue of original letters, in forty-two bundles, mostly written by Foreign Princes, persons of quality, ambassadors, &c. This collection too is to go by wholesale, and the price as dogmatically fixed, as if such ware was common in all the markets of Europe; but not as reasonably, for 'tis pretended that nothing less than 200*l.* will purchase this.

Another collection, which more nearly borders on our own history, and on which the owner has set a more moderate value, may therefore be more worthy of attention. This is an intercourse of above a hundred letters in the years 1580, and 1581, chiefly between the Earl of Angus, Secretary Randolph, with others in Scotland, and the Lord Hunsdon, Governor of the Marches, Lord Scrope, President of the Council at York, the Earl of Huntingdon, Robert Bowes, and Walsingham, Secretary in England, about the murder of Lord Darnley, the trial of Earl Morton, &c. The catalogue of them I have also here enclosed, which I promised to return in two or three days. The letters in the margin of it are intended to signify that most of them are originals. They were probably part of Sir Francis Walsingham's State papers, and the owner values them at five guineas.

Another uncommon performance I have met with is:—The Chronicles of Ireland, under part of the government of Lord Deputy Chichester, from the year 1612 to 1615, collected by William Farmer, and dedicated to the said Lord Deputy; containing 52 pages folio, in a small legible hand. This I have the reading of for a few days. It belongs to the possessor of the former collection, and with it may go for little or nothing more than is for that expected; or, separately, could not be valued at a quarter of that money, as I conjecture, for I have not yet heard what would suffice for this alone.

I have still three of Mr. Booth's old Chapter Books with me, but know not whether I should acquaint myself with any more of them; and I hope in a little time to have a catalogue of the Saxon MSS. lately belonging to Mrs. Elstob, which are I think eleven volumes in folio and quarto. I mention not the records and papers relating to the Antiquities of Essex, because the person who is about to make an extract of them for the public has himself, it seems, mentioned them to your Lordship.

Nor do I mention any of these things, or others which have occurred, with the least thought that they would interrupt any considerations of greater importance or induce to any expense beyond what your Lordship may have designed for things of this nature; but to manifest, by this specimen of my enquiries and observations, how ready I am to devote them in any other manner that may be of service to you.

I. TUNSTALL to [the EARL OF OXFORD].

1740, June 29. Cambridge.—I am obliged to be the unwelcome relater of the news of Mr. Baker's sudden and dangerous disorder. It is of a paralytic kind, and has already disabled one side, the left. The circumstances are that yesterday at five o'clock, our time of evening prayer, the bedmaker, as usual, went to give notice of Chapel. She found him laid at length upon the chamber floor, in which posture he had probably been since three o'clock, for his pipe lay broken by his side which at that time he was generally used to take. His understanding is almost entirely taken away, though he has some short intervals: and his features, at the time he was first observed, were

much distorted. The assistance of physician and surgeon was immediately had, though much against his will, for he did not desire to live. He was let blood and blistered, but appears at this time (four o'clock) to be rather worse, a fever coming upon his former disorder, and Dr. Heberden, the physician, gives a most unpromising account. In one of those intervals I mentioned, he desired to have prayers and gave good attention to them, but has not been capable of joining in those offices since last night. No reason need be assigned of this decay but his extreme old age (he being eighty-three) but perhaps the immediate occasion of it might be his being disconcerted a little as to his general method of life. A great nephew of his, of the same name, was admitted fellow-commoner here on Friday last. This young gentleman, being heir to an estate of 1,500*l.* per annum, and the hopes of the family, had been expected with impatience and was the centre of all his affections and the delight of his life. 'Tis likely then the discomposure might be occasioned by some sudden efforts of joy upon seeing him, whom he entertained on Friday with a dinner at his chamber, a compliment no one has had from him for many years before.

Another of his guests was Mr. Burton, a near relation, who attended Mr. Baker to Cambridge. Your Lordship will observe that there is a very providential circumstance attending this disaster, that the relations who are nearest and dearest to him are actually upon the spot and taking care of him. Mr. Burton is a gentleman of good estate and character. He ordered all the MSS. and things of curiosity and value which were in the outer chamber to be carefully placed in the study, the key of which he is advised to keep. I wish I had the power of inserting any circumstance which might abate the concern which your Lordship will conceive from this representation of the present state of one for whom your Lordship has a sacred esteem, and by whom your Lordship was equally esteemed and always mentioned with a most distinguished respect; but 'tis thought impossible that Mr. Baker should ever enjoy life comfortably again, and improbable that he should enjoy it long. He is exceedingly given to dozing all this day, and the best that is hoped for is that it may end in a settled lethargic habit.

This is a busy day with us, Commencement Sunday, and I am obliged to use greater haste than either the importance of my subject or the dignity of the person whom I address might require from me.

JOURNEYS IN ENGLAND, by LORD HARLEY,
afterwards the second EARL OF OXFORD.

I.—IN KENT.

Hinc quo nunc iter est tibi?

Ready to wend on our pilgrimage to Canterbury.

On Monday, August 26th, 1723, pretty early in the morning I attended my Lord Harley on horseback out of Dover Street towards Hyde Park corner, but was kept in the dark which way the excursion was intended, till we turned down by Buckingham Wall towards the Horse ferry. While the servants with the horses were crossing over in the ferry boat, we got over in a pair of oars to Lambeth, and took a short view of the Archbishop's Palace, the inside of which I had never before peeped into, and perhaps never shall again. The first room we were conducted into was the Great Hall, a very handsome capacious room, built by Archbishop Juxon, as my Lord informed me from his knowledge of the arms (I think three or four blackamoors' heads) which were stuck in two or three places about the Hall. It is indeed a very noble room, and great pity it is that more use is not made of it. I mean, that it is not so used as the generous and charitable founder designed, for hospitality, &c. We were thence shewn upstairs, and passing through some few rooms came into the Gallery, which is the Archbishop's private library, and a very proper room it is for such use; and it seemed very well furnished, and great exactness was used in placing the books to the best advantage, according to their several dimensions. Some pictures there are in it but none that I remember very remarkable, excepting one which upon account of the vileness of the artist ("no artist" *written above in MS.*) ought not to have been placed there or any where else to common view by any person who has any true value or esteem for the person it represents; for I think it is the worst piece of portrait that ever in my life I saw, and if it were in any other place one would go near to suspect it to be a designed abuse upon the youth supposed to be represented by it, for I defy any burlesque painter to do it more effectually, though he were instructed by any inveterate enemy of the family. If one were to form a judgment from this piece one would be apt to give credit to the silly, common report of some people that he is no better than an idiot; but I rather think the painter deserves that appellation; and it is hardly to be imagined that anybody can be so injudicious as not to perceive either the meanness or abuse of this piece, and its unfitness for such a place wherever all sorts of gentlemen are doubtless received. Before we came into this gallery we passed through a room furnished with many pictures of Archbishops and Bishops, chiefly very modern. We saw a very fine piece of Holbein (as my Lord informed me) which, upon account of the art, made some amends for that which raised my spleen so much in the Library. It was of Bishop Wareham, and seemed a very curious one, though I cannot agree with the person who showed it to us and for the honour

of the Archbishop's palace affirmed it to be 800 years old. In passing on this way we saw a picture of a young man in a Spanish habit, which by the family is called the Proud Spaniard; but Lord Harley informed me it was done for Prince Charles when he was in Spain. The public library seems well furnished with books, but the room is somewhat dark.

From hence we came the direct road for Dartford by Greenwich and over Shooters Hill, whence there is a noble prospect of the river and the town towards the west, and also into Kent eastward. On the east ascent of this hill a pretty ancient beggar has fixed his abode, and is somewhat particular in his address to travellers. He only tells them simply the hour of the day (it was a quarter past ten when we passed by), and I believe is generally successful in this way of application; and if he can in time afford it, I would recommend to him the assistance of my friend Gibbs to erect a more decent habitation than he now has on this pleasant situation, and if after the example of great wits, they would have a motto for the entertainment and speculation of them that pass by, I would recommend to him *De paupertate tacentes plus poscente ferent*.

As we passed over Bexley Heath, about three miles from this hill, we had a pretty long prospect, which opened to the right and terminated in a sea mark. I think the fellow whom we met there and enquired of about it called it Peachey, or some such name; and we saw the same mark again, as I take it, a few miles before we entered into Rochester, and in our return I found that it was likewise to be seen from the west end of Blackheath.

We came into Dartford to the sign of the "Bull" about twelve. On the right, as we entered the town, there is a pretty snug hospital consisting of two sides of a square, to the east and north, built by one Horseman of Horseman's Place in 1572. After dinner we went to see the Church, accompanied by our landlord, who, I doubt not, is with great justice esteemed as one of the chief wits of the place, and he gave us a specimen of it, as we went along, by asking one of his neighbours, who had pulled down the front of his house, with a very facetious air, How long it had been since he kept open house? In this Church there have been some monuments of antiquity, but most of the brasses with the inscriptions are now torn off the stones: though there are some few still remaining; but not having time to transcribe them at present I hope to do it some other opportunity, D.V. There has been lately a good deal of money laid out upon the inside of this Church, so that it looks very neat and handsome; and the inhabitants seem to be a good sort of people, and are desirous of establishing by subscription an afternoon Lecturer; and there is one Mr. Jones lately come into the town for that purpose and keeps the school there; but upon some dispute with the Vicar, Mr. Chambers (who will not as yet be persuaded to lend his pulpit for this use), they cannot get this lecture fixed. This Mr. Chambers is a Welshman, as is Jones likewise, and was nominated to this vicarage by Francis Lord Bishop of Rochester, whose right it is to present to it, though this choice of his was contrary to the desire of the inhabitants, who had humbly requested him for Mr. Price, a Westminster scholar, and a worthy son of the former incumbent here, and who had for some time assisted his aged father, but his Lordship did not think it convenient to let them have him for their Vicar, nor Mr. Chambers to have him for the Lecturer, which they endeavoured at when he failed of getting the cure.

In the afternoon we came hence directly for Rochester, and upon the heath as we came out of the town the men of Tunbridge and the Dartford men were warmly engaged at the sport of cricket, which of all the people of England the Kentish folk are most renowned for, and of all the Kentish men the men of Dartford lay claim to the greatest excellence.

We had every now and then very pleasant views of the river from this road, and about five miles from Dartford is a small bottom or opening 'twixt the hills, called Stonebridge, from such a bridge of stone being there over a small creek, where the tide when it rises high runs for a considerable way cross the great road into the country.

We got into Rochester at the "Crown" inn about half an hour after six in the evening, where we passed over one of the neatest bridges, across the Medway, that I have seen. It joins a village on the west called Strood to the town of Rochester, and was built chiefly, if not solely, at the expense of Sir Robert Knolles, who, together with many other benefactors, did likewise leave an annual income, now amounting to 500*l.* per annum, for the constant repair of it, which income, being entrusted to the care and management of some honest gentlemen of the county, 'is faithfully looked after, and the bridge kept in very good order. Here we had at supper the company of a very worthy and ingenious gentleman, Dr. Thorpe, the physician of the town, and the only one there, who happening accidentally to hear of Lord Harley's being there, came to pay his respects to him. And very fortunate it was that my Lord was accidentally known here (for he designed to be incognito at every place, and accordingly as it falls out in such cases was some way or other everywhere discovered), for by this means we had this agreeable companion while we stayed here. He was formerly of University College in Oxford, seems to have a good share of knowledge, especially as to English antiquities; is extremely modest, but very communicative, and his good company was very useful as to the enquiries we were to make here, and made our stay much more agreeable than it otherwise could probably have been.

On Tuesday August 27, about eight of the clock in the morning, we rode out accompanied by Dr. Thorpe to see a little church three miles up the river Medway, called Cuxton, through very straight narrow lanes which I do not much wonder at in a by-road across the country, since the very great road improperly so-called, I mean, that from London to Canterbury, is in many places so exceeding narrow for several furlongs together that two single horsemen cannot pass by one another without very great inconvenience, much less any wheel carriages, even so much as two wheelbarrows; so very stingy and saving of their ground are these yeomen of Kent; and perhaps they think, by this parsimony of their ground by the roadside, to make amends for the great havoc that is made of their soil all along the banks of the Thames by the dealers in lime, who convey it in great quantities from hence for the support of the London builders; so that in this sense those traders may be said as properly to carry *Cantium in Londinum*, as Æneas did *Ilium in Italiam*.

The reason of our visiting this church of Cuxton was in order to see a monument there, which was erected in the year 1603, in memory of Anne Harley, second wife to Sir Robert Harley (and her only son), who is supposed to have died in childbed at a house which is at a little distance below the hill which the church stands upon, called Whorne's Place, and belonged at that time to the family of the Levisons, her relations, whom she came to pay a visit to, and died there. Her monument, which is a very handsome one, was this year

repaired by the direction and at the expense of my Lord Harley. There is another monument there for one of the Marsham family, which together with another built altarwise to one Bottyler, sometime rector of that church, having a brass plate upon it, is all that is worth notice there. There was a loose plate likewise, now lying upon this tomb of Bottyler's, which did belong to the gravestone of Master Walter, of London, woolpacker; but these inscriptions the Doctor has promised to send a copy of. Here we met a very odd compliment from some of the poor women of the place who strewed mint upon the road out of their aprons as my Lord passed along. But he stopped their civility, by ordering them a piece of money, with which I dare say they took care to provide something that might be of more use to them than their mint in that dry and parching season. The position of this church is somewhat remarkable, for its east end, if I may so call it, stands to the south, and this has given occasion to these two lines which are in some manuscript piece of Dr. Plot's, now in the custody of Dr. Thorpe, in which this place is mentioned and thus taken notice of—

He that would see a church miswent
Let him go to Cuckeston in Kent.

We took a compass from hence to the north-west, to see Cobham church, which is about two miles and a half off, a place of good renown and some resort in times of yore. The hills on the right hand as we came towards it from Cuxton seem very barren, but some part of them have been lately very considerably improved by sowing of cinquefoil, and doubtless the rest will be ordered after the same manner in due time. Cobham church, which is a large and spacious one, stands upon part of the eminence of the hill, and has in times past been a collegiate one; and it has at this time several gravestones lying in it with old inscriptions on brass plates, some belonging to the family of the Cobhams, and some to the members of the College. I should have been very sorry not to have had more time to take more particular notice and to transcribe the inscriptions of the most remarkable and ancient of them, had not our kind companion, the physician, promised to send a very faithful account and transcript of them to Lord Harley, which he is very capable of doing, as well as things of far greater consequence, with great exactness. The ruins of the College, which was founded by one of the Cobhams, are on the north side of the church; and the cloisters belonging to it did join to the church on that side. The ruins of it are now converted into almshouses for some poor people of this and the neighbouring parishes. The old hall on the south side is still standing pretty entire, and is about the bigness of the refectory of Edmund Hall in Oxford, but it is now a mere lumber room. The screen at the entrance into it is likewise entire, as is the door-way into the buttery, which was locked, and now doubtless converted to some other use.

We moved hence towards the south east, leaving Cobham Hall (the ancient seat of the Cobhams) on the left hand in a bottom as we passed through the park belonging to it, which was formerly noted for its great extent, so that now where we crossed it from the entrance of the avenue to the end of the pales is reckoned above three miles; but it has now no deer in it, and but very few other creatures that I could see, both that and the great house having the face of great ruin approaching. The estate is now about 2,200*l.* per annum, but has for some time been contested for at law by

We got into the great Canterbury road again a little above Strood, and into our inn at Rochester betwixt eleven and twelve o'clock, having

rode that morning about ten miles. Whilst dinner was getting ready we stepped into the cathedral, and had just time to take a very short cursory view of that ancient building, which now looks but very poorly and desolate. I think every one of the brass plates are taken off the gravestones, but there are two or three old monuments still remaining. The oldest, as I remember, is Bishop Lowe's, enclosed in a pew on the south side of the choir; it is built with stone, altarwise, and has an inscription still legible, but this, and a modern one very remarkable on Dr. Caesar, a physician formerly of this place, on the left hand as you enter into the church at the south gate, is promised to be sent after us by the obliging and good-natured physician who still survives there, and constantly attended us.

We left our inn at Rochester betwixt three and four this afternoon, and as we came out towards Chatham there is, on the left hand side of the street, a kind of hospital with an inscription on the front, signifying that it was founded by one Watts (and is now called Watts's Hospital), and that in it all travellers in want, excepting they be contagiously diseased, rogues or proctors, may be entertained at bed and board for one night, and have a groat given them the next morning. The reason of his excepting all proctors from any share of his charity was this:—When he thought himself a dying man he sent for a proctor, whom he entrusted to make his last will and testament; but it seems Master Watts recovered that fit of sickness, and upon looking over his will some time after, he found that the honest proctor in whom he had confided had made provision for himself by securing to himself the executorship. Upon this he immediately got a new will made, and in it excluded all of this fraternity from ever having any benefit of this his benefaction. He bequeathed this charity in the year 1579, to be given after his wife's decease, who married again another husband; and there is another inscription upon this front, above the former, which signifies that with his (her second husband's) assistance, she assured everything to the use designed in 1586.

On the same side of the street, a little further, is a new building, a kind of school, erected by Sir Joseph Williamson, Bart., in 1707, for teaching of mathematics: I suppose principally for the service of the Navy.

We could not conveniently see the stores at Chatham (which if I were writing seriously to posterity, and not keeping a diary for my own amusement, I would make some apology for), and so we left Rochester passing through part of Chatham betwixt three and four o'clock that afternoon. I do not remember to have seen any gentlemen's houses of any note as we passed the great road for Faversham, nor to have seen any gentlemen, excepting it were two of my own countrymen, whom we overtook driving some Welsh cattle from Bartholomew Fair, who were highly delighted as well as myself with my addressing them in their own language, though I dare say they were much better pleased with my Lord's taking notice of them in plain English after he had observed our conversation, and bidding them take up a piece of white money which he threw to them to drink their friend's health, which I presume they did very heartily in the first tavern they got to. I think there was nothing came in our way but adventures of this low kind.

The heat and dustiness of the season made us take notice of a fellow who was attending horses loaded with pears for some market or other and we got some of them for ourselves, and my Lord ordered some for the servants, which considering the heat I do not wonder they embraced greedily, but I believe both they as well as we wish they had

been let alone, for everybody found some inconvenience from them. I wish it was not they that infected John Newman's horse, which had the bellyache all that night and next day, and John sympathized with his horse or his horse with him : I shall not forget their name in haste, they were called poitrin pears. It was a little hard, considering what fine orchards we saw on each side of us, we should have no better fortune with fruit on the first venture ; but considering again that Kentish cherries were long since out of season, and Kentish pippins not yet come in, we might rest well contented with tasting poitrin pears, or smelling Kentish lime kilns.

When we came within half a mile of Ospringe, there is a little way on the right of the road a pretty tolerable house built by one Jugg, and called by the Kentish wits Jugg's Folly, the builder of it, who owned the powder mills at Faversham, having been broke by carrying on this edifice, or rather, very properly as my Lord expressed it, he was blown up by it. We turned off the great road on the left hand at Ospringe, and riding about half a mile got to the "Ship" at Faversham, at half-hour past seven that evening, so that it was too late for us to look about the town that night. It is a pretty large town, and is governed by a Mayor, a Recorder, twelve Jurats, and twenty-four Common Councilmen. sends no members of parliament, but seems as factious and as full of discord as if it did. It subsists chiefly by the benefit of a creek, through which the tide comes up to the very town, and brings ships of a pretty large burden. Their chief commodity is oysters, in which they deal for above 7,000*l.* annually.

The next morning betwixt six and seven o'clock we looked a little about the town, and went through a very large open spacious street (called Court Street) in order to see the church. This street has very little besides its spaciousness to brag of, there being no houses in it that make any extraordinary figure, though there is one which is somewhat memorable ; it is on the right hand, about the middle of the street as we went along. It is the house in which King James was when he endeavoured to get off at this place. While he was in it the Prince of Orange's Declaration was read under his window by one Napleton, an inferior sort of lawyer, who had notice of his Majesty's being within, and did it designedly to affront him. But the King gave the fellow no other reproof than just looking out of his window and telling him that he made haste to be rich. This house either is at this time or was then inhabited by one Southouse. They were the trained bands of this place that the King was taken by, having been forced again to the shore, as he endeavoured to get to sea through this creek, which is very difficult to get clear of, without a very skilful pilot, which it seems he had not procured.

Out of this street we turned into a lesser one on the right, called Church Street, which, agreeably to its denomination, led us into the church, in which are many monuments of antiquity. And I am in some measure contented for my not having had time to transcribe them, by being since told by our good Rochester physician that he had got all of them, and would send copies amongst other things of that kind which he had promised to send. But there is one modern one, which I cannot help remembering out of the particular regard I have to hypocrisy and vanity joined together. On the north side within the church there is a very handsome monument fixed up in the wall, with an English inscription giving notice, in very ample terms, that there is left to that parish a considerable benefaction of 20*s.* a year for a sermon to be preached on such a day, and 5*s.* annually for the clerk for his attendance

on that day, and 20s. to the sexton, who is enjoined, upon the penalty of forfeiting his title to this benefit, to expend two bottles of oil (one every half year) upon the iron rails of an altar monument, which is in the north side of the churchyard. This last particularity of the oil (though there were other ostentatious singularities which I do not remember) excited our curiosity to see what was further done in the churchyard, and there we saw a very grand monument of that sort, with inscriptions on all sides of the greatest humility and arrogance that one would desire to read; but the rails were the chief things to be observed, which, considering the oil which was to be bestowed on their purification, would not have surprised one with an extraordinary brightness. I mean, if its brightness and cleanliness were something singular, as indeed they were, for the oil was just slovenly poured on without any rubbing, in order for to clean the irons, that it made it ten times more nasty and dirty than it would otherwise have been by suffering the plain calamity of the weather. The person who ordered this splendid monument and the other marble one in the church was one Isles, who was a poor lad of the lower rank of this town, and had been bound to some inferior trade in it, but run away from his master to London, where he got into some way of life which enabled him to leave this memorandum of himself and his family. Our landlord informed us (which I could hardly believe, considering his zeal for a remembrance both in the inside and outside of the church) that Isles was a Dissenter and a Presbyterian; but when I recollected, my knowledge and acquaintance with some of those people, I could easily reconcile it. He purchased this vault in the churchyard (over which the monument there is placed) for ever for five guineas, from the present incumbent, Mr. Cooke, who gave absolution to Charnock and Keys, and from that act of his has been commonly called Absolution Cooke.

Within this church on the north side is the monument with a very proper inscription of . . . Southouse, who wrote a little book of the antiquities of this place, entitled "*Monasticon Fevershamense*."

From Faversham we set out about eight in the morning for Canterbury, which is about nine miles distance from it. We got into the great road again at the east end of Ospringe, and about two miles further passed through a village called Boughton, but by the present neighbours and inhabitants commonly called Bocton, and sometimes Bocton Bleen. It is the same town mentioned by Chaucer in his *Canterbury Tales* by the name of Boughton under Blee. I should hardly have taken more notice of it than of any other village we passed through, but for the mention of it in the scene of those ancient pilgrims. It is about a mile west of a large hill or forest called the Bleen, covered with wood, but a very small shrubby kind. From the western ascent of this hill, there is a prospect of part of the sea towards the north east, and from the ascent of this hill into the town of Canterbury is a very fine made road, which I supposed to have been part of the old Roman Way, but have been since informed by Dr. Thorpe that it was made at the expense of the gentry of that county about a hundred years ago, and has been ever since kept in good repair and order by the bordering parishes. The nearer we approached to Canterbury the larger hop gardens we saw, but not more fertile than those lesser ones which we saw at a greater distance from it. About eleven o'clock we got into the "*Red Lion*" at Canterbury.

II.—A JOURNEY THROUGH HERTFORDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, AND NOTTS
TO THE NORTHERN COUNTIES AND SCOTLAND.

1725, April 10.—Upon Saturday morning, about 6 o'clock, I returned to my Lord Oxford's house in Dover Street, after having been absent from thence ever since Good Friday, March 26, in obedience to his commands, which he laid upon me to keep away on account of my Lady Margaret having the smallpox at that time.

On this same morning at half-past seven I set out with my Lord Oxford in his coach directly without any stopping to Mr. Edwards' at the "Crown" at Ware, where we were by eleven o'clock; and there met Dr. Middleton, the head Librarian of Cambridge, who was going to London in order to get institution to a living somewhere in the Isle of Ely, of which he had the presentation in right of his wife. I take notice of meeting him at this place, because in our conversation after dinner he mentioned an urn, which I had never before heard of. He had seen it when last in London, at Dr. Woodward's, who had bought it at some auction for fifteen pounds. He says it is doubtless antique but much questions whether the present inscription upon it be as old as the urn itself, which Dr. Woodward imagines to be the very urn of Horace, though the chief inducement for thinking so is the several emblems of a lyric poet that are carved about it. The inscription is this, as I took it from a copy given to Dr. Middleton in Woodward's own hand.

DORFLACCPISMAR
PAMPHMINFECIT

At two o'clock in the afternoon we left Ware and came to Wimpole in five hours ; where we stayed until Tuesday, April 20, on which day at seven o'clock in the morning I attended my Lord Oxford in the coach from Wimpole towards the North, together with John Morley of Halsead, Esq., who came within few days after my Lord to Wimpole. The servants and the horses that set out with us were as follows :—

Servants.

1. Samuel Hopkins, groom of the chamber.
2. Edward Vaughan.
3. Geo. Waller, coachman.
4. Tho. Kettlewell, pad groom.
5. Will. Pluckrose, under groom.
6. Will. Nicholls, groom's boy.
7. Will. Waller, cook.
8. Will. Hewit, postilion.
9. Samll. Jackson, the sumpter man.
10. ——— Thoreby, Mr. Morley's servant.

Horses.

6. Coach horses, 2 of them geldings.
7. Bumper, led for my Lord.
8. Monkey, a pad led for my Lord.
9. Buckskins, ditto, left at Welbeck.
10. A little pad mare.
11. Morton, pad for T.T. [Mr. Thomas? the writer of this narrative].
12. Hopkins' horse.

13. Frank's horse, Vaughan's.
14. Miller, the sumpter-horse.
15. Ball, Jackson's horse.
16. The Brampton, one-eyed pad, Kettlewell's.
17. Mr. Morley's grey mare, Thoreby's.

We got into the Great Northern road at Coombe Grove, and went on directly through Caxton and Huntingdon, and were at the "Bell" at Stilton (where we baited) at half-past one, which is computed twenty miles, but as measured by the wheel instrument was twenty-seven miles, and twenty poles. This place has gained great fame and reputation for its cheese, but if one were to judge by what they produced to us (and I presume they brought the best that the town affords in its present state), it is by no means deserving of that high repute though an extravagant apologist might very properly cry it up for food for the Gods, for I verily think few human stomachs would care to devour it.

At twenty minutes past four we left Stilton. I take no notice here of places lying on, or near the road in our way from hence to Stamford because I have noted them in our journey last year to this place and to Peterborough; but I do not remember to have then observed those stones fixed upon the side of the highway which are upon this road; the first is at a mile distance from Stilton, and there are in all twenty of them, at one mile distance from each other, as we proceed northward, and were designed for showing the miles, and for travellers mounting their horses from them. They were all put up by one benefactor, who has set the initial letters of his name upon each of them, viz., T. B., which is to denote Thomas Boulter, a grocer of London, who I presume made often that use of these stones which he designed for other travellers.

We were at Stamford at Gill's thirty-five minutes after seven.

In the churchyard of St. Mary's there is this epitaph, which I do not remember to have seen when I was there last year. It belongs to the gravestone of William Flowers, who died in 1717:—

The world's a city full of crooked street :
Death is the market-place where all men meet :
If Life were merchandise that men could buy,
The rich would always live, the poor must die.

From Stamford we set out for Belvoir Castle at seven in the morning on Wednesday, and by the direction of a guide we took along with us, went at least two miles about out of the direct way, and were at Belvoir half after twelve, computed eighteen miles, and measured by the wheel machine, twenty three.

This Castle is seated on the top of a hill rising up in the midst of a large plain, and I suppose had its name on account of the fine prospect there is from it. The hill it stands upon looks like a pyramid of many sides obtruncated towards the middle, or rather lower. The house is built in a square, and is a double one, and has a great deal of room in it. On the top of the great staircase is the first Derbyshire marble I have ever seen, it makes two tables, one on each side, in an alcove, like side-boards, and looks as if this landing place were intended for a kind of summer dining room. This stone is of a chocolate colour, interspersed with white, which looks like petrified shells of various sizes, and takes altogether a very fine polish, and looks, I think, as beautiful as any other marble. Here is a large gallery, wherein are the pictures in full length of the Lords of the family with inscriptions signifying who they were and

at what time they lived. There has been a great part of the house lately sashed, and there are workmen now refitting several parts of it. It stands in two counties, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, and is extra-parochial. The house and a small bowling green cover the whole top of the Mount, which I cannot help thinking must have been partly artificial. Upon the sides of it is an indifferent sort of gardening, divided into several slopes. Here are vines upon reclining brick walls, which have stoves underneath to force their ripeness. There are about seventy-seven stone steps (such poor ones as they are) the way that we walked down, but a great deal of the lower part of the descent has no steps at all. We baited at an inn hard by at the bottom of the hill, built there by one of the Earls of Rutland, on purpose for the reception of strangers that came to the Castle. It looks but indifferently on the outside, but there is very good ale within and plenty of silver tumblers.

We left this place a quarter before five and came through a part of the Vale of Belvoir towards Grantham. The soil of this vale is said to be exceeding rich, but it seems not to be at all well taken care of and husbanded. The hedges of the enclosures are much out of order and neglected. I am told that the soil here is so very strong that it produces beans higher than a man's head on horseback, but the roads both as we came near the house and as we went off from it are excessive bad. We did not go into the town of Grantham, but passed close by it, leaving it on the right, and a little further came by a very good house of my Lord Tyrconnell's on our left called Belton, the seat of the Brownlows. There is a pretty avenue to it from the South, the trees it is planted with seem of different kinds and to have been planted at different times. There is a handsome gravel walk through the garden towards the East at the end of which they were making a new "ah Ha!" From hence we came up a gentle ascent upon a fine Heath, called Lincoln Heath, which begins about Coleshill and reaches on northward for sixty miles together. There is a very extensive view of an open country as we came over this part of it into Ancaster, which from Belvoir the way that we came is computed twelve miles, our measuring machine was put out of order by the deep roads about Belvoir.

This Ancaster, from which the Marquis of Lindsey takes his title of Duke, is but a small village, consisting of about twenty-four families, and is in two parishes, the north part of it is in Wilsford, the other in the parish of Ancaster, and stands upon Watling Street. We lay here this night at the "Red Lion," a little snug tight inn, which proved much better within than it promised from without. It is kept by a good housewifely widow woman, named Aldgate, assisted by a young fellow, her son-in-law, named Carr.

In the morning we walked up to see the church of Ancaster, which has nothing in it remarkable. There have been there several ancient flat stone monuments, many of which are now made use of for the coping of the church-yard walk: one of which, on the left hand as you enter the church-yard from the road, has the following inscription, but much obliterated. The letters it is composed of seem to be of some mixed metal, most like to brass, fixed into the stone by proper nails for that purpose. Where the letters or any part of them are here blackened, the metal is still remaining, where that is not done there is nothing left of the letter, but only the place where it once was fastened.*

* This sentence refers to an attempted reproduction of the letters of the inscription made in the Manuscript.

“Priez pur le Alme Sire Joh Dolman Chivaler.”

There is no date upon it, nor does there seem ever to have been any, but it seems to be pretty ancient.

At eight o'clock this morning we left Ancaster, and came on towards Lincoln over a very fine, open, pleasant heath as ever I saw, and must be very delightful for those gentry that come hither at the season for hunting. When we were within seven miles of Lincoln on the left we leave these churches, 1, Wethington (*sic*, Wellingore?). 2, Navenby. 3, Boothby. 4, Coleby. 5, Hamestone (Harmston). And the last, Waddington, all about a quarter of a mile from the road, and seem to be about a mile's distance from each other in a pretty direct row. I have not for many years seen any oxen either ploughing or drawing any carriages, till now upon this Heath; some with two yoke of oxen and two horses leading, some with one yoke and two horses, about the size of the Welsh oxen. We were at the “White Hart” at Lincoln in three-and-a-half hours, computed fifteen miles from Ancaster. The ascent this way into the town is very steep and difficult; but by going a back way, which winds a little about the hill, it was much easier.

Before dinner we went out to view the Cathedral, which has been a most magnificent pile, but is now in a very poor condition, and has all the tokens of entire ruin approaching. They told us Mr. Gibbs had been lately there to view it in order to think of some method of securing it against an utter desolation, and that the first thing the Chapter designed to do was to pave it, which I thought but an odd conceit to prevent the tumbling down of the tottering roof and pillars. The chief spire was blown down in Queen Elizabeth's time, and has never since been put up again; the other two were blown down of later years. There have been some new ones put up in their places, but are very ill-proportioned, and much too small for the height they are placed at.

There are a great number of flat monumental stones everywhere on the floor of the Church and in the Cloister, and several of the inscriptions that are cut round the rims in the stone are still legible. We go through the Cloisters into the Library, which is a very handsome long room and well stored with books, but not so well stocked but that there is space left for many more. It was founded by Dr. Honeywood whose picture and his grandmother's are at the upper end of it, and whose monument (being a flat stone) is at the East end of the Church beyond the Chancel, and whose inscription is remarkable as he was one of those many descendants that were seen by one woman before she died.

Here lies the body of Mich: Honeywood, D.D., who was grandchild, and one of the 367 persons that Mary the wife of Rob: Honeywood, Esqr. did see before she died, lawfully descended from her, that is 16 of her own body, 114 grandchildren, 228 of the third generation and 9 of the fourth.

My Lord tells me, the epitaph of the grandmother is somewhere printed in one of Hearn's books.

We stepped from hence into the room where the old library was, which is but a small one, and has now nothing in it but dust and a few neglected MSS. which somebody has lately been endeavouring to make a particular catalogue of; and had one had time to examine them with exactness, there is no doubt but there may be some worth notice amongst them. After dinner we walked down the hill, and saw the new church at the bottom lately built by contribution. The mason and architect was Smith of Warwick. The old church that stood upon this

situation is commonly supposed to have been much older than the Minster; it had several ancient monuments in it, but I do not find there has been any care taken to preserve them as they ought to be; several of them are laid down in the floor for common pavement and covered with pews.

A little further we went into the Ch. of ; but the chief curiosity that belongs to it is on the outside, on the southerly part of the west entrance, where there is a stone with a Roman inscription which required more time for taking off than I had now in my power to bestow, but I hope it has been done by some other hand.

From thence we returned directly up the Hill again, and went into the Bishop's Palace, I mean what formerly was such and must have been very grand and magnificent, but has now nothing to signify it but its ruins. An ancient man lately died in this city who had lived to see this Fabric in its full beauty and splendour and afterwards in the mean condition it now lies; it was burnt down by Oliver Cromwell. The name of this old man who saw it both flourishing and in flames was Carter, by trade a plumber, and when a boy had often blown the organ in the Bishop's chapel. He died about six weeks ago, at the age of ninety-two, so that he must have been above ten years old at the time of its destruction if it happened after 1643.

From hence we went again into the Minster and up one hundred and thirty steps to see the great bell, which does not seem to be so large as Tom, of Christ Church, but a better sounding bell; by the inscription upon it, it seems to have been new cast above one hundred years ago. That round the upper part of it is thus:—*Sanctus Spiritus a Patre et Filio procedens Suaviter Sonans ad Salutem Anno Domini 1610, Decembris 3, Jacobi regis Angliæ 8º et Scotiæ 44º.*

Round the bottom part is this:—*Laurentius Stanton Decanus Rogerus Parker Precentor et Magister Fabricæ Georgius Eland Cancellarius et Magister Fabricæ Richardus Clayton Archidiaconus Lincoln.*

It is always sounded when the Bishop, the Dean, the Subdean, or any of the Archdeacons preach in the Cathedral, and is dedicated to the Holy Ghost. There is as we go up to it, about the middle of the tower where it hangs, a small room encompassed with thick walls that looks like a place of confinement and is said to have been a prison where in former times the Dean and Chapter confined criminals. I must not come again out of the church without taking notice of the monument of the founder Remigius, which is at the upper end on the north side, and has this inscription, which though not very extraordinary, seems to have been of later date than the death of Remigius:—

*Hujus Fundator Templi Remigius urna
Hic jacet atque brevi sit satis apta viro
Si tamen ingenti tribues aequale sepulchrum.
Ejus par menti (mens ea quanta fuit)
Sit Tumulus Templum quod struxerat. Ipse minore
Nec possit tumulo nobiliore tegi.*

which having something in it in general that I did not dislike, I thus translated for the amusement of our fellow traveller Mr. Morley:

In this small Urn the Great Remigius lies
The pious Founder of this Edifice,
Alas, now small! nor equal to proclaim
That Worth, which merits a more pompous name
Let this whole Pile his monument express,
He cannot have a greater, nor deserves a less.

The Chapter House has been a very handsome room, but is not now in good repair and order.

On the south side of the Church towards the western end on the outside are several odd fantastical figures upon the summit of the wall, which they say, from their ugliness and height of situation, gave occasion for the common saying of "the Devil looking over Lincoln," but I could not learn to which of them that appellation was appropriated, they seem to have so equal a pretension to deformity that I cannot pretend to determine it.

It was pretty late in the evening when I went up into the Castle, chiefly for the sake of a fine view of the country which I was told was to be had from thence. Just after entering the gate I turned up to the left hand to the top of one of the bastions, which commands a very good prospect both of the town and adjacent country; you see Nottingham and Newark to the S.W., Boston and Tattershall Castle towards the N.E., the Lincoln Wolds to the N., and Belvoir Castle to the S.W. All the low ground in this view at the bottom near the town, to the W. and to the S., is overflowed in the winter. There are at present several large pieces of water in it, where I am told there is excellent fishing, especially for pike. Within the old Castle walls is a good new brick house where the jailer lives, and where prisoners are kept; it stands S.W. of the Minster.

Whilst I have this view before me of the ruin and desolation that appears everywhere through this city, I cannot help a short reflection on the short continuance of all human affairs. There are so many footsteps of grandeur to be traced throughout this place that it were easy to guess at its former splendour without any other information, and the two first parts of the old prophecy—"Lincoln was, London is, and York shall be"—are most amply verified. The Bishop and the attendants on the Cathedral must in former times have been the chief pillars of it. The government of the town is now in a mayor and twelve aldermen, who are all Justices of the Peace. Though the ruins are so many here, that one would think it could hardly suffer more, yet they find means every day of letting matters go further to wreck, and there is a Parish Church, St. Michael's, very lately fallen to pieces, and so much neglected that nobody will so much as take care of the bells which lie in the ruins, and the very Cathedral itself, if not immediately taken care of, may not improbably be seen converted into a heap of rubbish by some who are already born; and I take it to be no easy matter to find out a method for its reparation as it stands at present, without a much greater expense than the state of religion in this land will at present allow, though there are not wanting many private persons even in this age of very exemplary virtue and piety; but such pompous edifices are not to be erected, but when kings are the nursing Fathers and queens the nursing Mothers of the Church.

We dined at Lincoln, and lay there this night. We came out of Lincoln a quarter before seven in the morning, to the N.W. by three windmills to the left of us on the same hill whereon the town stands, down which we come to a bottom much covered with furze, and where there is but a very indifferent soil for some miles. About two miles from Lincoln begins a canal or drain close by our road on the left till we come to a village called Thaxby [Saxilby?], and there we cross it over a bridge. This drain continues on to the Trent, and is navigated and called Fossdike. After passing it at the bridge at Thaxby which is four miles from Lincoln, we go by the side of it for about a mile, and then bear off to the left; we see several tracts of land covered

with wood on that side, called Drinzev and a house called Thorney belonging to Mr. Neville. One Mr. Ellis has likewise some woods on that hand and a house called Doddington Hall, which he had by his wife of the family of the Husseys.

Seven miles from Lincoln we came through Newton, a small village near the Trent where Mr. Bertie is lord of the manor, and the estate belongs to Mr. Staines of Newark. There is a tolerable strong house here originally designed for the habitation of a gentleman, but has now only a tenant in it. About a mile further is Dunham Ferry over the Trent. We were here from Lincoln in three hours, computed eight miles. A little way above us as we crossed the ferry is an Isle in the river called Dunham Holme, and feeds about nine score head of cattle. As soon as we are over this ferry we come into that part of Nottinghamshire which is called the Clays, a rich and fertile soil. Adjoining to the banks of the Trent is the village of Dunham, and the church, which we walked into, while the coach and horses were getting over. Nothing of antiquity in it but two grave-stones which to me were hardly legible. The vicar came to us, a young man, his name is Cave, and was of Clare Hall [Cambridge]; he has a wife and four children. The vicarage is worth 80*l.* per annum, and is in the gift of a Prebend of Southwell. The rectory is the Duke of Kingston's, and worth about 200*l.* a year, held by lease from three Prebendaries of Southwell, and it was very lately renewed by the Duke for three lives.

The owner of the ferry and manor is Mrs. Mellish, a lady who lives at Ragwell [Ragnall?], about a mile off. She lets out the ferry at 20*l.* per annum, and the tenant makes above 100*l.* of it. We passed on through Markham, and saw some small hopyards on the left, and several thatched pigeon-houses, with small sticks fixed in the thatch for the pigeons to rest upon. In five hours we were at the Eelpie house from Lincoln, which is upon a small river called Man, within seven miles of Welbeck. In coming to it we left Retford and Grove, Mr. Leving's, on the right, and Tuxford on the left. This house got its name and reputation from the pies it made with the eels from the neighbouring stream, but if they were never better prepared than we found them, it deserves but a very indifferent name. At three o'clock we left it, and came on horseback towards Welbeck, leaving Mr. Morley only in the coach, and under the conduct of Obadiah, the son of Aaron Jeffries. We came on through Elksley, where over against the church we turned off to the right into the Forest of merry Sherwood, and, after riding about a mile in it, saw some red deer, which were the first stags I ever set my eyes on and at the same time had a distant view of the noble woods in Welbeck Park. We passed through a new enclosed park, which was taken out of the Forest by the late Duke, who fenced it round with a good high pale; it is said to be twelve miles in compass, and to have in it about four hundred head of red deer, and this the Duke designed as the chief nursery for his stag-chase; and we had a sight of a brave herd of old stags on the right as we passed through it, besides several fallow deer. This park is called Clumber. The first wood in it on our right is called Hardwick, consisting all of oaks, but very scrubbed ones. As soon as we came out of this park we entered into my Lord's liberty which begins at Carburton, where there is a good old house and a ruinous church or chapel on the right hand, a little further at the bottom on our left is the famous Dam of Carburton, made for the forge adjoining, and stored with plenty of pike by the late Duke, who took

great delight in that kind of fishing for them which is termed "trowling." We entered Welbeck Park at the south-east part, passed through an avenue cut through the most stately oaks, thickly and widely spread on each side, about the middle of which we go over a small vale, called the Banqueting Dale, and had its name from an entertainment which was made in it for King Charles I. We got safe into Welbeck House about five in the afternoon, in two hours from the Eelpie House: where we rested ourselves with no small satisfaction, for April 24, 25, and 26, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday: and on Tuesday about eleven in the morning, my Lord, Mr. Morley, Mr. Hobart and myself rode out that way where the famous tree is, called the Grindall Oak, which has lately had a passage cut through it, large enough for any coach to drive through it, and accordingly seldom any pass that way without going through it; there were several of the most heavy and cumbersome branches cut off at the same time to ease the tree, but there are still reckoned to be about nine tons of timber remaining upon it. We rode through the body of it, and went on to the bottom of a small descent which led us into a place called the Carr, which contains about one hundred and twenty acres, and was formerly a very thick cover of furze and underwood, and thickly interspersed with young oaks of about twenty years growth, but all is now grubbed up, in order to be improved and ploughed for three crops and then laid down for grass; but some of the larger oaks here and there are still left standing in it. From this Carr we rode into a place called the Tile-kiln Springs, where some trees have been lately cut down, and particularly one old oak, which had a kind of excrescence or wen upon it, the circumference of which wen or rather its semi-circle (as it nearly resembles half a globe) was thirty-two feet, its perpendicular height eight feet, and thickness five. This excrescence was lying in the place, where it was sawed off, and was cut out into three parts. From hence we came into an enclosure called the New-close Head, and so forward to the brick kilns, and passed again by the house, and on through the park, out at that gate of it that leads to Worksop Manor, through some of the noblest oak timber that I ever beheld, or ever expect to see, which are thought not to have grown from the acorn but the stump after a former fall of timber, there being frequently to be seen, two, three, four, five and sometimes six growing up together from the same common stock, and particularly three trees, which are called the Three Sisters, two of which grow on the right hand, and one on the left of the way that we came out of the park. As we went on this way to see a new farmhouse of my Lord's, occupied by one Geo. Hancock, we had a view to the right of Worksop Manor House, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk and makes a very stately figure at this distance, which is about a mile. We return back again the same way to Welbeck about one o'clock.

In the afternoon I rode out again, with my Lord only:—and servants, viz., T. K., and Aaron who is the father of Obadiah, both which attended; we went quite round the park on the inside of the pale, which is reckoned to be betwixt three and four miles in compass, all along through the finest and greatest number of oak timber, that can be contained in such a space of ground, some being sixty, some seventy, and some more feet, clear in the shaft.

April 28. At eight o'clock this morning I set out from Welbeck House in the coach with my Lord and Mr. Morley, the same servants attending as before mentioned, through Worksop Manor Park, which contains a great compass of ground but furze and broom, and some few hedges which belonged to former enclosures now laid open: the timber

in it was all cut down by the mother of the present Duke, during his minority, and there have been no new plantations made in it since, but a large avenue that leads up to it this way. We leave the Manor House about half a mile, Worksop Lodge a mile, and Shire Oaks, Sir Tho. Hewitt's, about two miles to the left, and pass through Worksop town, which has some good houses on the left as we passed. It was market day there, and a great appearance of butchers' stalls, though they have but a very indifferent name for the meat they kill. On the left as we come out of the town there seem to be ruins of some old works or fortifications. On the right about a furlong off we leave the church, which has two handsome towers to it. Here we cross a small river, which rises about Shire-oaks: and we cross it again twice more, once at our entrance into, and another time after our passing through Blythe. Half a mile beyond Worksop we come upon the open forest, and for a little part of the way have a very extensive prospect to the right, where there is abundance of heath, but I do not understand that they have any plenty of grouse or heath game in them. A mile beyond Worksop and four from Welbeck we go through Carleton, and see the church half a mile to the left.

Six miles from Welbeck we pass through Blythe, and on the left as we go out of the town is a good brick house of -- Mellish, Esquire, fronting the road, with gardens sloping down to the river before-mentioned. This gentleman married a sister of Mr. Gore of Tring in Hertfordshire. We go from hence up a small ascent through a reddish sandy rock. On the flat bottom, a mile from Blythe, and half a mile from the road to the left is a large moor, called White Water Moor, and about five miles further in the same view upon a considerable ascent is a church with a good spire, seen at a great distance from several parts of the country and called Layton in the morning (Laughton en le Morthen). Towards the same side of the country, we have a vista through a large wood called Maltby, belonging to Mr. Saunderson, the owner of Sambeck (Sandbeck) Hall, which lies in the same view of the country three miles from Harrow [Harworth?]; at this Hall Mr. Levinz lived before he came to Grove.

Eight miles from Welbeck in three hours and eighteen minutes we were at Harrow, whence we have a noble extensive prospect of an enclosed country all to the left, the view to the right is for the most part of the way pretty much confined.

Eleven miles from Welbeck we came to Rossington in four hours. At Rossington Bridge, which consists of two arches, on one of which is a date 1633, we strike into the Great York Road. A little further we leave Tanclay (Cantley?) church to the right, and the course for the Doncaster horseraces, where there is a machine, with a new plantation of trees round it, which I suppose is the weighing post, but looks much more like a gallows. We come into the town by a pillar erected where probably a Cross formerly stood, in 1679. We were at Mr. Whitacres at the "Angel" at Doncaster in five hours from Welbeck. The bridle way is somewhat nearer than that we came, and is more to the bottom on our left.

Before dinner we saw the church which is a very handsome one, and has some resemblance of St. Mary's in Oxford. The tower stands about the middle of it, has no spire, and on the angles of it all the way up are some juttings out in the similitude of horns, as if meant for people to climb up by them on any emergent occasion, or perhaps they may have been meant by the architect for a mere ornament which I do not understand. The inside of the church is well

fitted up, has two good galleries, some old worn out flat monumental stones on the pavement: the oldest date of any I saw was MCCCCLIX. There is another at the entrance into the vestry room of MCCCCLX or . . . LXX, I am not sure which of them. Behind the pulpit is a freestone altar monument raised up about three feet, and has an inscription in the manner I describe it on the other side, and is the most whimsical I saw in this church.⁶ There was another church here in Leland's time.

There is a good free school here, endowed with 60*l.* per annum and has about forty scholars in it. The present master is one Withers, who attends it himself, and keeps an usher. The last boy sent from hence to the University was Dudgeon, the vicar's son. The settled income of the vicarage is 80*l.* per annum, but by the help of subscriptions and a lecture, commonly amounts to 200*l.* in which I include 10*l.* a year which is paid him for reading prayers and preaching once a month in a chapel near the town.

Three quarters after four in the afternoon we left Doncaster, and crossed three stone bridges which are over the river Don. The first has three arches, and is over the navigable branch of it, where the stream is somewhat rapid, and has good salmon in it: at the next bridge we pass over a strong stone gate, where there is a good prison-house, and close by on the right hand a mill, built by the Corporation in 1690. In the fine meadows all along up the river were several troopers' horses tethered and grazing, and a tent fixed there for their guard. Their commanding officer, Colonel Foley, was then absent, having the day before married a wife, Mrs. Sunderland, a young lady of about 2000*l.* fortune in that neighbourhood. There are causeways on both sides of the road when we are out of the town, but the chiefest both for foot travellers and a bridle way is on the left. At the end of this causeway appears plainly the Roman way, which continues in the the present road for many miles together, it is raised considerably high from the common level of the ground, and in some part of it the coach drives along the very ridge. As we were walking along the top of this way we met a small parcel of Scots horses brought from Annandale and going to Leicester fair, which is to be next Saturday: I should let them pass unremembered but for the extravagant value I thought they set upon one of their runts which we demanded the price of and was told it was no less than 12*l.* sterling.

Three miles from Doncaster we leave Sir George Cooke's at a small distance to the right, called Outley (Wheatley), where there runs a very large common all along a fertile bottom. Two miles further close by the road side, is a famous spring called Robin Hood's Well, with a new stone building, that covers it over raised at the expense of the Earl of Carlisle, under the peculiar direction of Sir John Vanbrugh: as this wall is strong enough to support a figure of Robin Hood (and Little John too if there be occasion) I would propose to have one set up in its proper habiliments over this well with an inscription underneath it towards the road to this purpose,

At my Dread Name be not aghast,
Nor tremble Trav'ller, for thy purse;
Strange turn of Fate since Ages past.
I now stand here to guard thy course
If parch'd with toil, or heat, thou burn,
Invited taste this limpid flood;
And boast wherever thou sojourn,
Thou once hast drank with Robin Hood.

* The well-known one to Robert Byrkes, for which inscription and others in Doncaster Church see Hunter's "South Yorkshire." Vol I.

This structure would make a cube of about eight feet, the spring is one foot deep in the centre, its diameter sixteen inches, and a poor old man attends here constantly, and reaches it in a black pot with great liberality to all passengers, and we accordingly tasted of his cup, both to our own and his satisfaction. Just over against it is a new enclosed park, with a good fresh wall, called Skellbrook, belonging to Captain Brown. A little further to the right is Norton Priory, Squire Ramsey's.

At Wentbridge, seven miles from Doncaster, we parted from the Great York Road and kept to the left over the bridge of three arches for Pontefract, through a large field of furze, where there is good soil, but ill husbanded; kept much to the left, and came through a little village called Carlton, to Mr. Watson's at the "Star" Inn, at Pomfret (Pontefract) from Doncaster in three hours and fifty minutes, computed ten miles.

This town stands upon a declivity, and we came into it through a way cut pretty deeply into the rock; its chief commodity is liquorice, which produces about thousand pounds per annum. It is now all farmed by two persons who allow the planters a certain rate for so many years, provided they break up no more ground to be employed that way, than was occupied at the time the bargain was made.

On Thursday morning we called in to see the ruins of this old Castle in our way as we went out of the town; on the summit of the hill whereon it stood is what they now call the Castle Garden, encompassed with the old walls, and is about an acre and a half; and all planted by Dunhill, who rents at present the site of the Castle, with liquorice. On the S.E. corner of this garden are the plain ruins of the old Chapel (of St. Clement's), which did not stand due East and West. At the west part of the garden, in the area of it, there is an opening, where we went down by several stone steps, till we came to the solid rock, in which is a further passage cut, through which we descend thirteen more steps cut in the very rock, and so come into some cellars made out of the rock, and where probably the prisoners were formerly secured, but is now only made use of by the tenant for the confinement of his liquorice. This Castle had seven towers in it, the main one was the round, which was raised upon a much higher eminence than the rest, as is common in all the buildings of this kind; it has now no inhabitants to boast of, but a few pigeons that have an edifice raised for them on the chief summit of it, and I dare say some of its former inhabitants often wished for the wings of the dove that they might flee away and be at rest.

The chief battery against it in the Civil Wars lay from a rising ground on the S. East. They show us the marks of some cannon balls on the inside of the south wall of the garden I mentioned before, but how it should happen to be on the inside I do not well comprehend. The wall is generally about eighteen feet thick.

At nine in the morning we left Pomfret Castle. At the end of the town is New Hall, belonging to Mr. Dawes, the Archbishop's son, it came to that family by the Pierpoints. The Archbishop was going to make a park there; just before he died; within that compass of ground, which he designed to enclose, are some acres of land which belong to my Lord Oxford: as there are likewise about a mile to the right which we rode a little out of the way to take a view of.

Two miles from Pomfret we come to Ferrybridge, and there crossed the Aire which is navigated up to Leeds in small boats, over a good stone bridge, towards the middle of which on the right hand were

formerly three dials, one of which is still remaining with these words embossed in the stone wall "*Sanctus Petrus*," with the Keys over them, and "*Henricus Vavasor*" underneath the arms of the Vavasours. Here we come into a fine common, belonging to Brotherton, Ferrybridge and some other neighbouring towns, but goes by the name of Brotherton Marsh and is reckoned the best ground in all England. The country people aver, that if you throw down a switch upon it over night, it will be covered with grass, that you shall not be able to find it the next morning; but however it be covered with grass in the summer, it is certain it is well overspread with the waters in the winter time, and there is a causeway built over it, all along by the side of the Aire up to Brotherton, which makes part of the York road, but must be a very dangerous passage when the floods are out. We cross the common and leave the great road and Brotherton a furlong to the left: and four miles from Pomfret we come over a rising called ground Betriss (?) Hill, where we have a plain view of York Minster, as we had before from Pomfret Castle. From this hill we are shown Monk-Fryston church to the right, beyond which, about two or three hundred yards, are three great stones, each containing nine or ten load, which the people of the country call the Devil's penny shoes: why they fixed upon them the value of a penny they do not account, they call them his shoes, because they say the Devil stood upon this hill, and having some particular pique at the church of Fryston, flung his galothes off at it in great wrath, but not having taken good aim in his fury very happily missed the church and threw over it, and they now lie upon the surface of the ground, at a small distance beyond it.

A mile from this hill we passed through Sherburn, where there is a free school on the left, with an inscription over the door in freestone, signifying that Robert Hungate of York, born at Saxton, was the great benefactor to it, and this inscription was put up by the Mayor and Aldermen of York in 1659. The church here had a very remarkable spire steeple, which was a noted sea mark, but all beat down about five years ago; the main body of it is since fitted up, but has no spire, or rather broch, for this is the first place I heard spire so called. But the most remarkable thing is the value of the living, which the neighbours tell us with great satisfaction has the largest annual income of any in England, there being yearly paid to the parson two thousand, five hundred, and forty pounds sterling: which it seems, is 2000 pounds of pins, 500 of cherries, and forty pounds in money. The present incumbent who enjoys all this is Mr. Dufton, his patron I did not learn the name of. The place where the pins are made is Aberford, and stands in Watling street, two miles west of the church, but in the parish of Sherburn: where any traveller that enquires for needles is sure of meeting a proper reception.

Two miles from Sherburn we pass through Towton, but the coach road leaves it on the right when the waters are out, but being now passable we went through it; a quarter of a mile before we come to Tadcaster we pass over a large brook (called here and in all the north a beck) just where it discharges itself into the river Wharf close by the banks of which we ride up to the town, leaving very fine meadows on our left called the Tadcaster Ings; in the upper parts of this river are trout, in the other only pike, perch, roach, &c.

We passed this morning near Sir W. Ramsden's house on our left; and on the right saw Mr. Leeds's, where the famous horse of that name was bred, which was sold to the Queen for a thousand guineas, and by her presented to the Prince.

At Tadcaster from Pomfret, computed ten miles, in three hours and three-quarters.

We came out of Tadcaster twenty minutes after four, this afternoon, over a very handsome stone bridge upon the river Wharfe, consisting of eight arches, the two middlemost very noble ones, it was rebuilt about twelve years ago, and how magnificent soever the former bridge may have been, I do not think the reflection in the distich mentioned by Leland, of *Sine flumine pontem* is by any means just; for there is a very large stream runs under it all the summer long, and in winter there is such a torrent of flood for the generality, that the bridge for all its magnificence is hardly able to stand its ground, or rather, to stand its water. Just above the bridge is a weir quite across the river, so that it is at present no further navigable. From the end of the town we come upon a causeway, leading through the common, about one mile in length and we were twenty three minutes getting over it. Here are some footsteps of the Roman way, for, besides the ground raised up above the common level, here are some small houses, whose name signifies as much, by their being called the Street Houses; they are about two miles from Tadcaster.

At the midway from Tadcaster to York is the Half way Hill, where we were in one hour and five minutes.

When within three miles of York on our left near the road is Askham-Moor, a marshy bottom, but no water in it that appeared to view. Within two miles of York are two ash trees on the right of the road, where the Sheriff always comes to meet the Judges.

On the same side lies Tangham Hall, Sir John Huley's: Middlethorpe: and Bishopthorp, the Palace of the Archbishop.

To the left, is, Akam (Acomb) Grange, Sir Harry Marwood's, we come into York by their gallows, which is the only one that I know of in England that has the honour of standing upon three legs. Just by it are the Dring houses, Query, why so called.

On the left are two windmills adjoining to the road, and on the right four, two just by the way side, the others more remote. Entered into the town through the Prison-Gate, where was the most dismal yell of beggars I ever heard. We were from our first entrance upon the stones to our coming to Mr. Thompson's at the "George" Inn in Coney Street twelve minutes and from Tadcaster two hours and twelve minutes. The owner of this house is Mr. Pricket, wine merchant, in Idle Lane, London.

We stayed at York all this day, and the morning walked to see the Minster, which is preserved both of the inside and outside in the best order of any Cathedral church I have yet seen, which I am told is chiefly owing to the care and goodness of the very worthy Dean, Dr. Finch. There is at this time a man employed for cleaning the walls on the outside, who has contrived a chair for that purpose, which he fixes on any part he has a mind to, and sits in it for the performance of his business. In the main aisle of the inside betwixt the western gate and the choir, the gentlemen and ladies walk after evening service in the summer time, for want of a convenience of a park or gardens: and it seems some people take as much delight in sitting here, and a liberal gentleman has for that purpose covered some of the stone seats on the north side with wood, above which is a brass plate with his effigies, and an inscription underneath, signifying his kind contribution to the health of such as were inclined to repose themselves on that bench.

In a room adjoining to the Vestry on the south-side of the church are several of their small curiosities kept, one of their chief ones is a bending horn of ivory, in length about two feet two inches, which was (*sic*) the church to hold a considerable estate, and I presume there might have been an inscription upon it formerly signifying as much, in the nature of that of the Puseys mentioned by Dr. Hicks. It was lost from the church for some time and restored again by my Lord Fairfax as the present inscription signifies:—

Round the smaller end: "*Henricus Ds. Fairfax demum restituit dec. et cap. de novo ornavit, 1675.*"

The larger end: "*Cornu hoc Ulphus in occidentali parte Deiræ princeps una cum omnibus terris et redditibus suis donavit. Amisum vel abreptum.*"

Within the very wall of the church just opposite as one enters this place is a deep well, which has in it very good water, and I suppose is as old as this part of the church.

After spending some time within the church, the worthy Chancellor Dr. Audley conducted us into his house. In the window of the Hall there, is some painted old glass, which has these three following inscriptions under the several arms:—

- (1) "*Rogerus de Lasey constabularius Cestrie et Matildis de Clare uxor ejus.*"
- (2) "*Johannes Dux Lancastrie Rex Castellae et legionis: et Constancia uxor ejus secunda Regina Castellae et legionis.*"
- (3) "*Patricius de cadurcis dominus de Cydwelly: et Matildis de Bellocampo uxor ejus.*"

The Chancellor showed us a curious MS. of Mr. Torre, a gentleman who wrote a most exact and particular description of this church and everything belonging to it; I think I never saw anything of the kind done with so much niceness and particularity, there is not the least stone or pane of glass that could be taken notice of, that has escaped him. This MS. all in his own handwriting was bought from his widow for about 50*l.* by Archbishop Sharp and given by his Grace, together with several other MSS. of Mr. Torre's, to the Public Office here: we had but a very cursory view of it; and had just time to transcribe the few following notes from it, at my Lord's direction, but the whole is well worth the most diligent perusal of any that would desire a most exact account of the Church of York.

On the first leaf of this MS. is an account when he began to digest his collection, and when he finished it, in this large thick folio volume, in a very close and small hand.

The Title, on the first leaf:—"The Antiquities of York Minster, *Inc. 4 Dec. 1690, die Joris: absolr. 24 Sept. die Joris, 1691.*"

The dimensions of the Church as there mentioned, are:—The length, 160 yards; from N. to South, 73 yds.; the nave, 21 yds.; the two side aisles, 7 yards each; the height of the lantern 67 yards; the ascent to it by 273 steps. Over the west door the arms of Percy and Vavasour.

P. 6. Anno 1367. The Plummer was to have two shillings and sixpence per week to work with his own hands at this building.

P. 7. Concerning the East window of York Minster. 10 Aug., 1405. 6 Henry IV.

The Dean and Chapter agree with John Thornton of Coventry, glazier, to make it, and to finish it in three years, obliged with his own hands to portraiture the said window with Historicall Images and other painted work. He was allowed for his own handy-working 4 shillings per week, and besides that 100*s.* sterling for each year.

If the work was well liked of by the Dean and Chapter he was moreover to have a gratuity of ten pounds in silver.

P. 108. The front of the choir of curious workmanship, amongst which is a row of the statues of our Kings from the Conquest to Henry VI. in whose reign it seems this work was finished and in whose cell (that is in the place where Henry's statue stood) is now set up King James I.

There are doubtless many things in the MS., which upon a longer perusal one would have been glad to have took a note of, but probably some time or other the whole book may be made public.

From Dr. Andley's we walked to see the ruins of the old Royal Palace, where there is nothing now standing but the walls. Here it was that the Earl of Strafford resided when President of the North, and over one of the doors are still to be seen the Strafford arms, carved in freestone, and put up by him during his residence there, and which was afterwards made one of the Articles of accusation against him. It stood very pleasantly having a gentle descent all the way towards the river, over which is a good stone bridge of five arches, and the middlemost of them is one of the most magnificent I have seen anywhere. I take it to be much of the same dimensions with that at Blenheim: the tide goes up seven miles beyond it. We returned to our inn, through that street, where the Corporation is building a new house, which is to be always allotted for the dwelling place of the Lord Mayor, during the year of his mayoralty.

After dinner we walked up to see the Castle, where is a very commodious, airy, Prison house built within these few years at the expense of the county; that for the confinement of the female prisoners is quite distinct and separated from that of the men. The whole is so very open and convenient, that it must doubtless very much contribute to the health of the poor creatures who have their dwelling-place there and it were to be wished, that all the counties in England would be induced to follow this example, which would be a very great piece of public charity: and would redound to the health of all those who are near them, as well as of the prisoners themselves.

This evening we spent at Mr. Commissary Ward's house, and returned to the inn at eleven that night.

May 1, Saturday. At seven o'clock this morning we left York, and came on horseback to the N.E. over Heworth Common, and so on to Stockton two miles from York; where we enter upon Stockton Forest which is three miles over where we pass it, leaving Sandhutton about a mile to the right, a place renowned for the dwelling of Mother Shipton there, who amongst her many other curious predictions is said to have foretold: That England should be lost and won thrice in one day on this very Heath. To the left at some distance we see Sheriff Hutton Castle, the Lord Irwin's, and a little further distant Sheriff Hutton Lodge, and Craig Castle. To the right are the Yorkshire Wolds, called here the Wadds, over which lies the road to Beverley.

At Spittle Beck about six or seven miles from York the road leads on to Malton and Scarborough but we keep to the left for Castle Howard, which we have no view of till we come pretty near it: we ascend by a new planted avenue which does not seem to thrive well, and come into the Park through a new heavy gateway, having this inscription on it, "*Carolus Howard Comes Carleolensis hoc Condidit Anno Domini MDCCXIX.*" A little farther in the Park, on the rising ground there we pass by the largest obelisk I have seen, of freestone, with a square piece

of white marble stuck in one of its sides, giving notice why it stands there, and is thus, "Erected in the year 1714 by CHARLES Earl of CARLISLE in grateful Memory of the FAITHFUL and GLORIOUS SERVICES done by JOHN DUKE of MARLBOROUGH to his COUNTRY."

We come into the House at the front, there is one of the wings not yet built, the whole may be easily known to have been under the direction of Vanbrugh. There has certainly been great expense laid out here, and is generally thought not to have been less than four score thousand pounds. There is some Derbyshire marble spread up and down the house, which looks very well, and a great deal of stucco work that looks very ill and mean. But the main curiosity that belongs to this place is the adjoining wood, which we walk up to from the house, at the upper end of the garden, leaving a small plantation of young obelisks on our right, which are in number four, and have a fluted pillar in their centre thus [::]. This is all upon a hill, and consists of one hundred acres, out of which thirty six are laid out into walks: it is called Raywood, and they have an account in the family when it was sown. There are in it the noblest beech trees, which I believe, are to be met with in England, both for the fine shade which they cast, and for the largeness of the stock of them; I do not think they had better in Italy, for all their *Patulae sub tegmine Fagi*. There are some waterworks in it, but there seems too great a poverty of that element to make anything fine of that kind: but the close walks, when it is drier and warmer weather than it was at our passing through them, must be very pleasant and delightful.

We were here from York (computed ten miles) in three hours and three quarters, and after seeing the house and this wood, baited at a little inn hard by, kept by a tight, cleanly old woman, Dame Brookes who has been formerly a servant of the family. The whole village of Hinderskelfe stood hereabouts, but the present landlord has scattered the farmhouses into other places, and cleared all here for the park.

We left Castle Howard ten minutes after three and by the guidance of one of my Lord Carlisle's grooms came through the park to N.E. in order to come to Thirsk, which is computed fourteen miles hence, but must be considerably more. The first village we came at was Terrington, two miles from Castle Howard: as we go up to it, on the left of the road is a Spa water, where there is an open space dug into the ground like a grave or a saw-pit for bathing, and it is said to have worked very notable cures, especially in rheumatic cases. The water looks very greasy, and has a mixed taste of brackishness and sweetness, and goes by the name of the Terrington Spa. About a mile further we go down a large hill, by Danby Mill at the bottom, from which is a very inconvenient ascent for the coach, both for the narrowness and steepness of the way, from whence we come a little further upon a wide mountainous heath, called Yareley Moor: off of which about half a mile to the right is my Lord Fairfax's seat and park, called Gilling; and a little further on the same hand is Newburgh, the Lord Falconbridge's: we pass off the moor through a new part which he has lately added to his park, and has likewise made a new plantation in it, which seems to have been very skilfully and carefully managed. A mile further from this park is the town of Hustwit (Husthwaite). A little before we passed by it, a person met us from Thirsk in order to conduct us thither and the Lord Carlisle's servant was dismissed. A little further we pass by a small but snug house, of Mr. Thomas More's, a gentleman of about 700*l.* per annum, a Roman Catholic, of which sort there are several in this part

of the country. One mile beyond Mr. More's (being five from Thirsk) we go through Carlton Hustwick. The minister there is Mr. Midgeley, who is likewise master of the Free School hard by at Cuckswould (Coxwold), which was formerly of considerable note.

To the right of us at three or four miles distance we leave a high rocky mountain, called the White Mare of Whiston (Whitstone?) at the foot of which is a large lake of water [Gormere] which is said to be a mile round, and could never be plumbed. Within three miles of Thirsk, we pass near Sir Thomas Franklyn's house [Frankland, of Thirkleby?], seated upon a very rising ground, at the foot of which runs a beck which we came over: we go a good way by the side of the wall of the park, which has now no deer in it, but is chiefly converted into pasture ground.

A mile further we come into the great direct road that leads from York to Thirsk, where we got from Castle Howard, through a very undelightful road (computed no more than fourteen miles), in five hours thirty-six minutes. Here we stayed this night, the next day and the night following, at Mrs. Lowry's, a widow woman's at the "Golden Bell:" one of the neatest and best inns on all accounts, that I have ever been at. It is called "The Maiden Inn," there being but one man-servant, which is the hostler belonging to the house. The whole business of the house is managed by the widow, her three daughters, and two servant maids, and no public place of resort can well be kept in more excellent order than this is.

May 2, Sunday.—Half an hour after nine this morning we went to the Parish Church, which is a very large one, has a gallery at the west end, and pewed all over the bottom part; but the best part of its inward ornament was the congregation which was very large and well-behaved, this is much owing to the diligent and exemplary conduct of the former curate there, which seems to be well followed by the present minister, whose name is Williamson; he came hither about two years since, upon the advancement of his predecessor by the Archbishop of York (whose cure Thirsk is) to the church of Phillis (Feliskirk) S. E. of this town, and worth about 180*l.* per annum. This being the first Sunday in the month was a Sacrament day, and there were a good number of communicants.

After evening service I rode out with a guide from Thirsk to the S.E.E., over Magpie Common, to see Gormere before mentioned, which lies upon a hill under The White Mare of Whiston about four miles off of this place. We leave Phillis church a mile to the left, and a little beyond it, on a very high hill, a good house lately built there by a clergyman who has an estate thereabouts; we pass through a small village, called Sutton, where likewise is a good stone house belonging to Mr. Spencer, another clergyman. We go up from hence a continued ascent (with very small intermission) for above a mile together, till we come to the Lake, which we see nothing of, till we enter that chasm of the hill leading into it, and are within a stone's throw of the water. On the east side of it is that high and steep rock, called the White Mare of Whiston. The other sides are all environed with a circular lower hill, which makes a kind of basin for the holding of this large piece of water; upon the inside of this hill (which in some parts is uncouth enough). I rode quite round it in about nine minutes. I could not perceive any visible spring that could feed this pool. There is a little oozing in two or three places which I crossed over as I went round which I would not have ventured to have done on horseback, for fear of a plunge, had I not

observed that the water near the shore was shallow, and the bottom a white sand and stone. It is very bad riding round, but one might have walked it very well. At a small distance from the shore it looks all black, is generally said to be a mile round, but I do not think it so much, it is somewhat of circular form, and I have endeavoured to put down some resemblance of the shape of it on the other side.* It belongs to the Lord Falconbridge, and there used to be a boat kept upon it for fishing which is for pike and perch, but there is no boat at present there except it be covered with the water.

Being now so near the Hamilton (Hambleton) Course (where the King's plate of one hundred guineas used to be run for, but taken this year to Richmond) I was desirous to see it, it lying just at the top of this rock called the White Mare, &c., and I was the more inclined to a sight of it because I had scarce a notion of such a piece of ground with a fine turf as this is represented, being in such a place as had so uncouth an access to it every way. In order to get up thither my guide leading back again from this lake down to the bottom a considerable way, before we entered upon the track, which leads up to the top of the White Mare, and is a very bad and steep ascent, and I was mounting it twenty minutes partly riding and partly leading my horse. But if one gets safe to the top, he may enjoy for the reward of his labours a very extensive and various prospect on both sides; that to the Thirsk and lower country shews a very large bottom, which has a rich and fertile view, on the other side even with the ground I now stand upon, are barren black heaths, which give occasion to these Hills being called Black Hamilton (Hambleton). On the top of this mountain within a furlong of this precipice begins the course, which is indeed a very good turf, though all about the course be covered with heath excepting some enclosures adjoining which seem tolerably cultivated. Upon the ascent of this hill the way we came up (for I think there are two ways more, but having a guide I suppose I came the worst) are several fine springs in the rock, but they run off quite another way from the lake, so that they can have no possible communication with it, though they are much higher than it. I tasted the water both as I went up and came down, and thought it very good and refreshing. This little excursion kept me abroad for about three hours.

May 3.—On Monday morning a quarter after seven we came out of Thirsk directly northward by the Church, and half a mile from the town pass by the Spa, which is covered over by a thatched house, built by the Corporation, who have placed a poor old woman who makes what little profit she can from those who resort thither. It is said to have wrought many cures on lame and ricketty people. Kilvington River runs on our right, and two miles from Thirsk we leave the church of Thornton-in-the-street on the same hand. Half way to North Allerton is a very bad piece of road which goes by the name of Purgatory, but why so called I cannot devise, except it be that all travellers would have their friends pray for them to be delivered out of it. But this whole eight miles betwixt Thirsk and Allerton is so very indifferent a road in the winter, that they have been obliged to continue a causeway for the most part for a bridle-way; we came it in two hours and a half. Here it was, that young Mr. Gowland of Durham came to us. Before dinner we saw some old ruins, on the side where the Bishop of Durham's palace stood, of

* This refers to a sketch made at the side of the manuscript.

fortifications, and the church, which is a vicarage in the patronage of the Chapter of Durham, and worth 300*l.* per annum. The present incumbent is Mr. Hunter, who has the name of being one of the best preachers in the North. The vicarage house is thatched and has but an indifferent outward appearance. On the left hand of the street as we returned to our inn from the church is a notable spreading vine, growing upon the front of one of the houses, which extends itself from the outermost branch on one side to that of the other, an hundred and six feet and reaches up one story.

At ten minutes after two, we left North Allerton, and came thence to Darlington, which is computed twelve miles in four hours and ten minutes, having the Hamilton Hills all the way to the right, amongst which we distinguish one, that looks somewhat like a beacon called Rosemary (Rossberry) Topping. We turn off to the left from the direct road (in order to see the Hell Kettles) at Denton Croft or Denton Common: and so pass on for some miles, through a great deal of lately improved ground on both sides, till we come to the village of Croft: where is a good new brick parsonage house, lately built by the present incumbent Mr. Bell, whose living is worth above 200*l.* per annum. Here we pass over the River Tees, over a good stout bridge of seven arches, on the middle of which we leave Yorkshire and come into the Bishopric of Durham. The bridge had need be built very strong, for the stream of the Tees is here very rapid, and is subject to violent and very sudden floods, as it happened at this time by the rains which fell, while we were coming to it from North Allerton: so that if we had not turned from the direct road which leads to the ford, we must have been obliged after going to the river side to have come back again to this Croft Bridge. About three quarters of a mile from this bridge in a flat pasture field on the right hand of the road, are the famous Hell Kettles which are five distinct basins of water. I should say they were all distinct till within these late years, when the two furthestmost joined together, by that piece of ground falling in which kept them separated, the figures of them and their disposition are on the other side.^o The largest of them is forty yards over, and has been plumbed as far as fifteen fathoms deep, where the further sinking of the plummet has been stopped by a black slimy substance. The neighbouring inhabitants affirm that they have no bottom at all, and at the same time tell this story of their being fathomed. The two furthestmost have been joined together within these forty years, and now make a figure somewhat in the form of a pair of spectacles. The water of them is exceedingly sulphurous, and takes no lather but will immediately curdle any milk it is mixed with, and will make the most salt piece of beef if boiled in it perfectly white. The waters of them are never sensibly raised higher or sunk lower, and have no apparent springs that feed them, but there is continually some water running out of them into a small river called the Skerne within a bow's shot of them. They are said to produce the longest pike that are any where to be met with, and some of them that have perfect hair or bristles upon them, which tale I should not have minded, but that our hostess at Darlington, Mrs. Stephens, very confidently affirms, and would persuade herself and her guests, that she saw with her own eyes such a kind of pike in Sir Ralph Millbank's kitchen at Hannaby Hall in that neighbourhood. This account of fish I never heard exceeded but by one relating to a draught of them at Bowers in Essex.

* *i. e.* of the page of the manuscript, on which an outline of the basins is drawn.

Just over against these kettles on the Yorkshire side of the river Tees, is a rising ground called Monke End, reckoned to be the most fertile soil in this country.

We lay this night at Mrs. Stephens, the "King's Head" at Darlington, which is the place that gave title to the famous German Duchess of that appellation, but this honour could not secure it from having dragoons quartered upon it at this time: it stands upon a shelving ground, but for all that is not very cleanly. The Skerne runs at the bottom, and there is a navigable river eight miles off, which is a great promotion of the trade of the town, which lies chiefly in huckaback. I bought a coarse piece of it for towels, and that I might be sure to be imposed upon with great brevity (*sic*), dealt with Dobson a Quaker.

The church here has been formerly collegiate, and is now in very good order on the inside: Leland mentions a fair altar of black and white marble there, but I remember no such thing now.

From Darlington we came out at seven in the morning, and did not go the direct road to Durham, but made for Bishop Auckland, the country palace of the Bishop of Durham. A mile from Darlington we come by Cockerton, where all is holden by copyhold from the Bishop. We met all this way several parcels of horses laden with sacks of coal, two on each horse. These they call gangs of horses, though there are several asses amongst them, but the horses and they were so very like that they might well pass without any distinction. Each of these sacks holds generally somewhat more than a bushel, the best is brought from Etherley colliery, ten miles from Darlington, and is there delivered at twopence halfpenny per bushel, which is sold at Darlington for eight pence.

Halfway to Auckland on an ascent called Heighington, which has a noble conduit of water on the Green as we go over, leaving Haughton on the side, which belongs to Lord Barnard on the left. One mile beyond Heighington, we leave Midridge Grange on the right, a small estate belonging to Mr. Bierly, who married a daughter of Dan. Williams the singing-man of Westminster, while he was at the school there, but I think that unfortunate young gentleman is since dead. Adjoining to this is an estate of about 50*l.* per annum, called Tickle: the right to which is one of the latest that has in England been adjudged by combat (unless all estates may be said to be on that footing, where there is a standing army), upon a dispute betwixt Lilbourne and Claxton, in which trial the former carried it; the arms they fought with are said to be still kept in this house, which at present belongs to Colonel Gore of Fleet Street, London, and came to him by marriage with a Lilbourne. The whole process of this controversy is in a MS. in the possession of Mr. Ralph Gowland, Senior, of Durham.

At Shildon a little way from Heighington we pass by the first coal pits I have seen; one of them belonging to Francis Crows, a freeholder of Shildon, in a field on the right hand of the road; and on the other side of the hedge by the roadside there was another pit just sunk by another proprietor, which was on purpose to have an eye on his neighbour Crows, whom he suspected would be invading his property, and in a very literal sense be undermining him.

A mile before we come to Bishop Auckland we stopped to look into South Church (so commonly called) but dedicated to St. Andrew, where we were to expect some remnants of antiquity. On coming into the church we found the great business of both Ancients and Moderns going on here; for the minister was just then joining together three pair of young people, and had done the same to four couple the day [before?],

and was like to continue that good work every day for the remainder of the week ; this, it seems, being the season of the year wherein are very great plenty of conjunctions all over this country. The reason is, because the servant men and maids at May-day are either leaving or changing their service, and at the same time the young farmers are entering upon their farms, and a help mate is thought very meet in these cases.

The most antique piece that I take to be here is a blue oblong stone at the entrance into the chancel with some letters on it much defaced. In the body of the chancel is a square small plate of brass with the epitaph of Bishop Barnes's wife, which I should have liked not the worse had there been no more of it than the date of the year [April, 1561] and "Oh! Fridesmonda Vale!"

Underneath a window, amongst some rubbish on the left hand before you enter the chancel is the figure of a Knight Templar carved out in wood, whose name they say was Pollard and they have a tradition here that he killed a wild boar, which used to commit great ravages and depredations amongst the inhabitants of this neighbourhood, and that in recompense for this noble achievement he had as much land given him by the Bishop of Durham, as he could ride over while his Lordship was at his dinner ; but I presume we are not to reckon the length of his Lordship's meals at that time by the present one. To confirm this romance, they tell you, there is an estate in this neighbourhood which having been purchased by the courage of this hero and the heels of his horse still retains his name and is called "The Pollards." In the window just over where this figure now lies (or rather is thrown by at present for it must have lain originally in some other place and position) is a Coat of Arms, half of it is only blank glass, on the other are three figures, resembling three black Urns or Pots with the following words in a continued line round about them in a kind of German letter, "Bellasys Bellasys dafte was thy knowell when thou chaungest Bellasys for Hen Knowell."

This Hen Knowell lies not far distant from this village, and gave title to a Baron, and some wise exchange for it must have given occasion to the reflection in the inscription.

We go to the town of Bishop Auckland a mile further than this South Church : it is very pleasantly situated on a rising ground in the midst of a very large extended vale ; the River Wear runs on the north side, and the Gawnless meets it from the South a little below the town.

The Bishop's palace is on the east end of the town, but well defended from the east winds by a large hill towards that part where the park is.

The Palace as it now stands was built by Bishop Cosin, as is signified by this inscription over the south gate where we entered : "*Ioh ep'us Dunelm totum castrum posuit et in hanc formam redegit A^o Dⁿⁱ MDCLXVII.*" The chapel that belongs to the Palace and only joins to it at the west end, is a very complete one : the Bishop who built it lies buried in the centre of it. His arms are everywhere both in the windows and on the walls of the Palace and Chapel. The inscription on the flat stone where he lies is as on the other side.*

From Bishop Auckland we went for Durham, by a small warren, cross the Gawnlees, and so up to another warren on a rising ground, over Sunderland Bridge, cross the Wear within two miles of Durham, where we came in seven hours from Darlington, having stopped by the way about one hour and a half, computed fifteen miles : our horses

* i.e. of the original manuscript.

were put up at the "White Hart," which is esteemed the best inn in the town but is a very poor one. We eat at Mr. Gowland's. In the afternoon we saw the Cathedral and the buildings about it, the chief of which are the Bishop's Palace and the Prebendary Houses, all built upon a high hill, which by the winding of the river Wear is made a kind of peninsula. The Church makes but an indifferent appearance, the stone it is built with being much subject to be worn away by the weather: the inside has been lately whitened. There are very few monuments here, several stones in the churchyard have an antique appearance, but I saw no inscription. There is at the west end of the church a building joining to it, called the Gallery, where Bede's monument was and there are still some tokens of it in the place where his shrine is said to have been placed. Here the Ecclesiastical Courts are kept but why it has the name of the Gallery I could not learn.

The Prebends' walk is pleasant upon the summit of the hill looking down to the Wear, but the common entrance into it mean and filthy.

May 5.—The next morning we saw Bishop Cosin's Library on the right hand near the Courts of Justice as you enter the churchyard, it is a handsome square room and well stored with books, but very slovenly and negligently looked after. There are some few MSS. on the lower shelves about the middle of the north side of it, amongst which is one in quarto on vellum of Wicliffe's translation of the New Testament, with a treatise annexed at the end, under nine heads, in the same hand with the rest of the book; it relates to the notion of the Priesthood in opposition to Popery. It once belonged (as most of the MSS. here seem to have done) to Geo. Davenport 1666. His name and the date being entered in them.

A MS. of Troilus and Creseide, on vellum. Here is Bishop Cosin's prayer book, as prepared by him for a re-impression, and in it are two original letters of Nichols to Dr. Pickering, relating to the use that Nichols would have made of these notes; I took a copy of them for my Lord.

In the afternoon Mr. Rud the librarian went with us after dining at Mr. Gowland's to show us the Dean and Chapter's library; which is a good handsome room, on the south side of the cloisters, very well fitted up, but not completely filled up with books. Here are several MSS. of good worth, Mr. Rud showed us a MS. of Bede which he supposes to be of his own handwriting and very ingeniously goes to prove the writing to be about Bede's time, by his observations upon the letter *r* in it compared with what Mr. Wanley says of another MS. there with a Saxon interpolation of the age of Bede.

Mr. Rud is now making a catalogue of the MSS. and has been some time about it. This library was fitted up by Dean — about thirty years ago. There are some ancient stones lying at the entrance into it, brought lately hither from Northumberland, by Dr. Mangey and — Hunter from near Hexham.

I am told there are many curious writings in their Chartulary, which my Lord could not get a sight of, it being necessary to have three Prebendaries present, and there were only two at present in town. They are thus shy of letting them be seen (not that any of themselves, except it be Dr. Mangey, have the curiosity to peruse them) but out of a jealousy lest others should gain any knowledge by them, which they are not inclined to seek after themselves.

From hence we walked down to the riverside by Framwelgate Bridge, which has two of the finest arches I have anywhere seen together, and thence through some part of the town. The houses in it are but very

indifferent and little life and activity in the people, there being no trade carried on here, and the chief dependence of the town being upon the church and courts of judicature. The whole situation of the place is somewhat romantic, but to me seems not unpleasant, being altogether upon hills which have a descent to the river which so winds itself amongst them that all the houses in the town have a descent towards it, but others of better judgment condemn this site, to whose opinion I always submit my own, to my great advantage and instruction.

May 6.—This morning we left Durham a quarter after ten and came over Framwelgate Bridge, over the Moor, where their horseraces are; left Sir Harry Lyddell's half a mile on the right; on the same hand about eight miles distance we see the highest hills in this country, called Warden Low; we pass chiefly over a moor or heath, and see few or no woods in this part of the country nor some time before we came at Durham.

We were at Chester in the Street six miles from Durham in two hours. At this town we left the direct road to Newcastle, and turned down to the right, by the side of an admirable new brick wall of —Headworth, Esquire, Dean of the Church: and a quarter of a mile off crossed a ford over the Wear. Leland mentions a bridge over it hereabouts, but I see at present no footsteps of any. A little above this ford is a salmon fishery, belonging to my Lord Scarbrough, who has here a weir cross the river to prevent the Salmon going up any higher, but for all this they get over it in great floods. This fishery is let by him at 40*l.* per annum: there are sometimes twenty and thirty salmon taken here in a day.

About a quarter of a mile from the river, we go up on a gentle rising to Lunley Castle, which is a very strong and substantial building, the walls are about seven feet thick. There are several rooms in it not at present fitted; here is a Park joining to it, but no deer thrive there, which they attribute to the water passing through the coal soil. Here are no old woods standing, but several new plantations.

We came back from hence again to Chester[-le-Street] and saw the church, which was formerly Collegiate, and has now a Lay-Dean. Fourteen of the Lunley family lie on monuments, placed in a line from one another on the north side, with the several titles of them on a square piece of stone, fixed in the wall above each of them.

From Chester[-le-Street] we go about half a mile to the left where is a very large fire engine for draining the coal pits there.

The boiler holds eighty hogsheads.

The fire stove consumes five fothers, or sixty bushels of coals in twenty four hours.

The brass barrel or cylinder is nine feet long. Its diameter two feet four inches.

Thickness of the brass—one inch and a half. From the surface of the ground to the bottom of the water is twenty four fathoms or forty eight yards.

The water in the pit is two yards deep. From the surface of the water to the drift or level where the engine forces it out is twelve fathoms.

It discharges two hundred and fifty hogsheads in one hour; it strikes (as they term it) or makes a discharge fourteen times in one minute.

In the same place are two other engines for draining, called Bob-gins, and are moved by water turning a wheel.

They all belong to Mr. Headworth, Dean of the church, and Mr. Allan. The weekly expense of these three engines is 5*l.* paid by the

owners of the colliery to Mr. Potter the undertaker of the fire engine, the owners allowing whatever coals are expended.

Coming from this engine towards Newcastle we pass over two way leaves which cross the great road. These way leaves are an artificial road made for the conveyance of coal from the Pit to the Steaths on the riverside; whereby one horse shall carry a greater burden than a whole team on a common way, and as they generally pass through the grounds of several proprietors, are very expensive to the coal owners, who pay very high prices for their trespass on that occasion. The nearest to Chester is a single one and belongs to Mr. Allan's colliery, the other about half a mile further is a double one, and belongs to Dean Headworth; the loaded cart goes upon one, and the empty one returns upon the other. The whole length of these two way leaves from the coal pits to the place from whence the coals are loaded into the lighters or keels at Sunderland, is five miles.

On a great part of this road to Newcastle we go upon the Roman Way, but as we come up the hill to Eyton, the common road is lately turned from it by Sir H. Lyddell, who has built new walls on each side of the way for the improvement of an estate adjoining, gained by him after a contention at law for it with the Bishop of Durham, about ten years ago. The Roman way went a little more to the right than the present road, and the causeway where it ran was lately dug up there.

Near this Eyton are good grindstone quarries, which Newcastle is no less famous for than its coals, insomuch that it is a common saying that—"A Scot, a rat and a Newcastle grindstone may be found all the world over."

Over the moors or fells, which have collieries upon them on each hand, we came a very bad, rough, rugged, ragged, rocky descent through Gateshead over the Tyne into Newcastle, where we had a steep ascent again to get to our inn, Mr. Plat's at the —

We were here in six hours and a half from Durham which if we had come directly is computed but twelve miles; as we came is sixteen. It was so late by that time we had dined that we could not look about the town this evening: but an invitation was sent to my Lord from the Corporation, by Mr. Alderman Fenwick and Alderman Ellison to do them the honour of going in the City Barge the next day, to take a view of the river and to see Shields and Tynemouth; which though it was not agreeable to the privacy his Lordship proposed to himself, he however consented to.

May 7.—At a quarter after ten this morning we took water in the City Barge at the Mayor's house which is upon the river and built on purpose by the Corporation for the use of the Mayor for the time being. The present Mayor, Mr. Carr, was absent at London; the persons that attended were the three Aldermen, Fenwick, Ridley, and Ellison: the Recorder, Mr. Douglass, a hearty old gentleman of about eighty five years of age: Mr. White, a gentleman of the town and very likely to be one of their next aldermen: and the Rev. Mr. Bradford, the Vicar of the town. The City Music attended in another barge. There were guns fired from five different places from the shore. Several steaths, being the places where the coals are brought to in order to be shipped off from the coal pits, are on each side of the river close upon the banks; those that are covered with timber work are called trunks. From these steaths or trunks the fillers take it off in lighters (here called keels) and carry it down to the ships which lie chiefly about Shields. There were many of these keels dispersed on the river, but few or no ships at this time. Each keel contains eight

chaldrons, which is equal to sixteen of the London chaldrons. There are just eight hundred of them in all upon the river, and every keel employs four men. These people have a particular manner of giving a pledge for their standing by one another upon any occasion, which is by spitting upon a stone, as they lately did upon account of an affront given to one of them by the person who kept a public house on the north side of the Tyne. The keelman that was injured went and spit upon a stone near the house, and renounced any further communication with it, and the rest that were of his mind performed the same ceremony, and they have kept so religiously to their vow that the people are obliged to quit their house for want of business. These keelmen live in that part of Newcastle which is called Sandgate, and is somewhat like the Wapping of London, and the number of people in it supposed to be above ten thousand.

On the right hand before we come to Tynemouth, the river stretches out for a great way on a large flat, which covers about a thousand acres. Mr. Shephard, the East India merchant, proposed to gain all this land from the river by running a strong wall or mound to keep it out, and building a town there; but as the town of Newcastle was jealous of suffering in its trade by such a project, and has the conservatorship of the navigation of the Tyne (which privilege they justly set a high value upon) an entire stop was put to this design. This flat of water is called Jarrowslike or Jarrowlake, and close to it is the church of St. Bede, belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Durham, to whom it is worth 1800*l.* per annum, out of which they allow a curate twenty marks.

A little farther on the same side of the river is South Shields, which is the chief place for making of salt. The houses there are poor little low hovels, and are in a perpetual thick nasty smoke. It has in all two hundred salt pans, each of which pans employs three men; and there besides, women and children are in a very extraordinary plenty. We were at Tynemouth fort, which is just upon the mouth of the river, in one hour and three quarters. The Fort is but a very poor one, I think it has about twenty-eight guns. The river just here is but very narrow, not above one hundred and twenty yards over. Here are two lighthouses, in each of which is constantly burnt in the night time a large tallow candle, for the guiding of the ships into the harbour. It happened to be a cloudy day, so that we could have no prospect into the sea, and could just see where the mouth of the river was.

The dinner was dressed in the little ale house adjoining to the Fort, we sat down to it in the Barge, where we had a very handsome and decent entertainment, and some guns from the Fort fired as we drank the King's health and the Royal Family's after dinner.

When this was over we came back again up the river, and landed at Willington Stairs on the north side to see the salt pans, which I think are called Howdon pans.

Each pan makes one tun and a quarter of salt at eight boilings, which lasts three days and a half. Each consumes fourteen chaldrons of coal in seven days; in which time it makes two tuns and a half of salt.

The whole annual produce of all these pans at Shields, &c., is about one hundred and fifty thousand pounds per annum.

The wages for Pumpers, *i.e.*, those people who pump the salt water out of the river into the pans is five pence per diem.

The Watchers, *i.e.*, Those who continually have an eye to the pans and the fire stoves have sixpence a day.

What salt is here sold for twenty-five shillings produces to the Government six pounds and six shillings.

We came from hence directly to the town, were saluted by two ships as we came along, and by guns from seven different places from the shore : which were crowded with the greatest number of people I ever saw together upon any occasion, except it be upon some very extraordinary show at London.

We landed below the Bridge at half an hour after six, and walked to see the Town Hall and the adjoining conveniences, which are altogether the best I believe of any in England ; here are two good pictures of King Charles II. and King James II.

This is the most populous and busy town I have ever seen excepting London : it has but one Parish Church, a very large one, St. [Nicholas], and — clergymen, all of whom are paid by the Corporation ; which expends on that account 900*l.* per annum. There are in the whole town above ten thousand communicants.

Between August and Christmas here are killed weekly about three thousand sheep, besides other meat in proportion.

Its chief trade is the coal, which produces about 250,000*l.* per annum. They seem at present a little jealous of Sunderland, which has of late shared with it pretty considerably in this trade, and as I am told is likely to gain more and more upon it every day.

The whole progress of the coal trade and the terms made use of in it, as far as I remember, are thus : the breaking of the ground to come at the coals, they call—sinking of a pit ; when they have sunk it till they come at the bed of coals, they are then said to have won the colliery. That pit through which they bring up the coal and is sometimes thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, &c., fathoms deep is called the shaft. The lining of it with wood in order to hinder it from falling in, is timbering of it. The baskets in which the coal is brought up to the mouth of the pit, are the

The chief workman that stands at the mouth of the pit to overlook the other labourers above ground is the upper overman ; he that is the foreman under ground, is the under overman.

The coal at the mouth of the pit (where it is disposed round about) is loaded into the waggons for that purpose, and brought on the wayleaves to the steathes, from whence it is taken away by the fillers who buy it at the steathes and carry it down in the keels to be laden into the ships.

May 8.—We left Newcastle a little after six, and rode a little out of the direct road to Morpeth, in order to see my Lord's estate about Jesmond, where there are several collieries. The estate is strangely scattered here ; there are two or three lands interspersed in one field, and as many in another. By that time I had rode about five miles this morning I was so overcome with the cold raw wind, together with the effects of the fatigue of the day before, that I was forced to get into the coach for shelter, but my Lord rode on, with Mr. Gowland and servants, and I did not see them any more till we met again at Old Moor.

I kept on in the coach with Mr. Morley over the river Pont, or as sometimes called, Blythe river, which runs where we passed it, in a bed of rock ; one mile from thence to Bedlington, three miles further to Sheepwash Bridge over the river Wansbeck, on the northside of which we stopped for a small time at the Rev. Mr. Stafford's house,

the rector of Bothall parish, who was presented to it about thirty years since by Henry Duke of Newcastle. This poor gentleman has been very unfortunate in his wife, who has for many years cohabited with another man, one Creswell, by whom she has had a very great number of children. Two miles from hence we came to Old Moor, to Mr. Lawson's, a substantial freeholder; here we met my Lord again, and I rode with him about Old Moor where some new enclosures are made with quickset, which seem as if they would thrive well, if taken care of and prevented from being abused by sheep and cattle. About five miles from Old Moor, and within one mile of the sea we see Widrington Castle, now belonging to the York buildings company. Betwixt this and Sheepwash bridge are large heaths or moors covered with a high furze. From Old Moor we rode round the moors to Conygarth, by Bothall Barnes into Bothall Castle, where we dined at Mrs. Pots, upon what provision we brought along with us. The Castle is all in ruins, a great part of the walls are standing, and the gate into it is still pretty entire, and has several coats of arms at the top, on the out-front. Over this gate my Lord has ordered a room to be repaired, and to have his court kept there. It is situate in a low bottom by the river Wansbeck. The present parish church is just by it, though formerly in all probability this was only the chapel belonging to the Castle, and the parish church was about Sheepwash bridge, it being now styled Sheepwash-cum-Bothall. There is a good flat monument in the church, with much work about it, but no inscription; upon the south wall of the chancel is written the pedigree of the Ogles. From Bothall Castle we rode in the afternoon to view the rest of my Lord's estate hereabouts, to Pegsworth colliery, thence back again to Pegsworth town through Langhurst, North moor, to Cockle park tower, to the top of which I mounted on the inside by fifty eight stone steps, it commands a very extensive prospect, but it was too hazy at present to afford any view. From hence to Hepborne and Shield Hill (hereabouts is very good land), and so into Morpeth in the dusk of the evening, my Lord having this day been on horseback about eleven hours, and computed to have rode about forty four miles. We put up at the post house, the "Queen's Head," kept by Smith, a widow woman.

At Morpeth we rested all Sunday, and in the afternoon went to the chapel of ease at the lower end of the town close by the bridge, where Mr. Fenwick, a very grave and serious person, the rector of Morpeth parish, preached, and his curate read prayers.

May 10.—This day it was designed we should have proceeded farther, but the great rains which fell all this morning prevented it, so that I could not stir out of doors till towards six in the evening, by which time the little river Wansbeck, which one might have walked over dryshod the evening before was now swelled up by the rains to such a height, as to have been able to have carried any ship of a large burden.

Here is a good new Town House built by my Lord Carlisle, and near it in the middle of the street, by itself, stands a square tower for a clock and bells. This is a borough town, and has the reputation of being the most corrupt, mercenary place in the whole North. The electors are about one hundred and thirty, all good men and true. On Wednesdays it has a very great market for beasts, and on Saturdays for provisions.

On the of the town is St Thomas's well, which affords a very great plenty of fine water.

Here are new mills built of freestone on the river Wansbeck by Lord Carlisle, at an expense of 2,000*l*. Over this Wansbeck is a good stone

bridge, where toll is paid to the Lord Carlisle for all beasts sold here, and which at present is farmed by the burgesses of the town.

Here is a good free school, which by the recovery of some lands to it within these late years, is worth 130*l.* per annum, and has two masters, but there is at present some controversy about the right of nominating them betwixt the town and , which is referred to the arbitration of Lord Carlisle.

The rectory is worth about 300*l.* per annum, in the gift of Lord Carlisle.

May 11.—Though this morning continued foul and rainy yet we proceeded northward in the coach a quarter past nine in the morning, and came to Tredlington (Tritlington) Moor, where Mr. Ogle of Causeway Park, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. — had appointed to meet my Lord this morning in order to settle the division for enclosing it, which was accordingly agreed upon, ; and we proceeded forward through a very foggy, dark, rainy cold weather, so that we could see nothing of the country, but that which lay close to the road seemed much covered with furze, of which all this part of Northumberland produces great plenty. Eight miles from Morpeth, we passed over the river Coquet on a good stone bridge; it was much swelled with the rains and very rapid. Hereabouts it was that Mr. Rankin, my Lady Kinnoull's servant, met us from Scotland in order to conduct my Lord thither. We crossed several small becks or brooks this day in passing from Morpeth to Alnwick, where perhaps we should have met no water at all had the weather been not so rainy. This is computed fourteen miles, and we were six hours coming from Morpeth, to the "Angel" at Alnwick; kept by Mrs. Grey, a widow woman.

This is reckoned the county town of Northumberland; but is no borough. Their manner of creating freemen of the town is somewhat out of the way, for every person before he is admitted to this honour, is first of all obliged to walk through a deep, dirty, nasty pond at the west end of the town, and therefore called Freemen's Well. Did it send members of Parliament this manner of initiating them might be very emblematical of the future dirty work they must pass through. Their tradition for the foundation of this custom is, that King John as he was passing this way fell off his horse into this water, was made free of the town, and left this injunction of wading through the pond on all his future brethren. The river Alne runs on the northside of the town, under the Castle belonging to the Duke of Somerset; it is here commonly called Ale, and that gives occasion to a vulgar joke amongst them, that all horses that come to this town drink Ale.

The living here is but 12*l.* per annum certain. The minister is chosen by the town, and affirmed by the Bishop: the present incumbent is Mr. Darson.

May 12.—We left Alnwick twenty five minutes after seven and proceeded forward the direct Northern road, leaving Alnwick Castle at the end of the town on the right. The walls of it are all standing, and in tolerable repair, and a good part of it is inhabited; it is a low building and covers much ground. We passed the bridge over the Alne, and went up thence on a continual ascent for a mile together. The country is very mountainous all beyond the vale to the left; and to the right we could discern the sea, and a small island in it, called Farne. On the same side we could see at about two miles distance a large ruin of an old castle, which we were told was Dunstan Castle, and belonged to the Lord Tankerville. A little beyond this Castle

is a gentleman's house (Mr. Wood's) amongst some higher trees than I had seen for some time. About four years since Mr. Grey of Howick married a daughter of this Mr. Wood, who had been steward to the father of Mr. Grey.

Two miles farther is Preston Tower, belonging likewise to Mr. Wood.

Within three miles of Belford, we pass through a rivulet called Wernford, and a little beyond it go close by Twysell Wood, belonging to Mr. Foster of Etherstone, which though consisting chiefly of birch and underwood, makes here a very considerable figure, and we saw none such since our entrance into Durham.

The whole country we passed through this forenoon is either covered with heath and furze, or else enclosed with turf mounds, and ploughed. Some of the mounds are composed of turf and stone, *i.e.* one row of about a foot thickness being turf, the other of the same thickness being stone.

Within a mile and a half of Belford, close by the wayside on the right hand, is a very large strong spring, which has a considerable descent for two or three miles towards the sea; it ebbs and flows as the tide does, but the water is always fresh; it is called Chapel Well, and from its name, and the footsteps that may be discerned of a small ruin close by it, it may be supposed there was formerly a church or chapel there.

We were at Belford, computed twelve miles from Alnwick, in four hours thirty five minutes.

Churches are very thin in this part of the world, there is one in this village, the vicar is Mr. Hunter, who is allowed 10*l.* per annum by Mr. James Montague, for serving the cure.

Here we had some salt brought us sticking to a thick piece of wood, it is brought from Ross, where it is made, about four miles off of this place; this is reckoned of the finest sort of what that place produces, and distils thus upon pieces of wood out of those troughs, into which the salt is thrown, when first taken out of the salt pans: and they can have it distilled after this manner to the quantity of a tun. The manner of making their salt at Ross is different from their method at Newcastle, for here they put the salt water first of all into what they call the day-pans, and so expose it to the sun, till it becomes of such a consistency as that one boiling for twelve hours together shall produce salt, whereas at Newcastle they boil the water directly from the river without any such previous preparation by the heat of the sun, and are obliged to give it eight different boilings before they have salt. At Ross therefore they only make salt in the summer time; but at Shields and about Newcastle all the year round.

We left Belford twenty five minutes after three, and the tide permitting us, we left the higher road and went down to the shore, and rode all along upon the sands, leaving the Island of Landisfarne or Holy Island (whence the Bishopric was removed to Durham) hard by on our right; the tide being low, and the water out, we saw several folks riding over to it at a place where there are posts fixed to direct their course through the water. This Isle is in the county of Durham, and at the end of it next pointing towards we could plainly see an old ruined castle. We rode upon the sea sands to Goswick, having a near view of the sea, which seemed to be on a level with us, and seemed as if it were tumbling towards us in great fury. There is one convenience in this passage which is not common in others over the sea sands, that you cannot be in danger of being caught and hemmed in by the return of the sea, for a traveller may get out anywhere upon the banks at

the least warning. At Goswick we came off from the sands, though afterwards we found that we might have proceeded farther on them with great safety from the tide. We went on upon the bank of the sea through a large warren called Cheswick Lyncks, all through Northamptonshire, which is in the Bishopric of Durham and joins to Berwick. We came towards Berwick over a large heath, with several coalpits in it, both fresh ones, and such as have been long since worked out and are nearest to the water side. We came into Berwick over a very good bridge cross the Tweed, consisting of fifteen arches; it is built of stone with a reddish grain, that makes it look at some distance as if it were brick. We lay at the "Bear" Inn, Mr. Temple's, where we met but very indifferent entertainment of all kinds, and was but a discouraging prelude to our entrance into Scotland, and indeed the whole town of Berwick upon Tweed, which makes such a noise in our laws and edicts, disappointed my expectation very much, which I do not know whether to attribute to the too high opinion I had conceived of it, by finding it so frequently mentioned and so solemnly; or to the true, real, intrinsic worthlessness of the place itself, "*hanc tu, Romane, cave.*" It may for ought I know have been once a place of good strength, and a strong barrier against the Scots, but it does not seem to be such at present, all the outworks being out of repair or demolished, and no defence from within but a common garrison.

The Salmon Fishery upon the Tweed hereabouts is said to be worth about 3,000*l.* per annum. They cure their salmon here, and send it off for London and other places, and are supplied with fish for their own consumption from their neighbours of Scotland. They are said to take here sometimes eight or nine hundred, and a thousand salmon in a day: but that which we tasted here and was to have been just taken out of the river, was not to be compared in goodness to those we had met with more southerly, and afterwards met with more northerly. But what is most unaccountable is that there was not a glass of good wine to be met with here, neither French claret, nor any other kind; nay even the officers of the Customs (for Mr. Relliby, one of them, who waited on my Lord, in great civility sent for a flask of his) could not produce any equal to what is to be met with both at the places to the north, or to the south of it, and so I take my leave of it for the present and proceed.

May 13.—The next morning towards North Cammus (or Auld Camus) over Berwick Common, where their horse races are run, and where is good sheep pasture. As we leave this Common about half a mile from Berwick, we cross over a small brook, or bourne by a farm house, called Haviche. This brook is commonly supposed to divide England from Scotland, or rather to divide Scotland and the Liberties of Berwick, but I am informed it does not and that the division is made about a quarter of a mile more northerly, though I could not get an exact and satisfactory information whereabouts. A little way beyond this Haviche was the first Scottish 'fold' that occurred to us; it is made up of turf cut from the surface of the ground where it stands, and divided into several apartments which have a passage for communication with one another, as on the other side; after it is sufficiently manured by the cattle, the whole fold is demolished and scattered upon the surface from whence it was taken, and ploughed up for corn at the next season. I have seen some of these folds which cover six or seven acres of ground. In this fold by Haviche was a fox just suspended on a pole *in terrorem*, the shepherds and herds being much infested by this vermin all hereabouts, which I wondered at, because I could see no cover to

harbour them in ; but it seems they lodge themselves in the rocks all along the sea-shore, with as much or greater security than any cover could afford them.

Four miles from Berwick we come down a moderate declivity for a considerable way and pass over a good stone bridge cross the river Ay at Ayton, leaving Aymouth about a mile down the river. At this place it was that we had the first sight of the Scotch 'trampers,' which is really unseemly enough to a stranger. These trampers are the women that wash their linen cloth, which they do by putting it into a large tub, into which one or two of them (having first tucked up what clothes they have on quite to their middle) get in, and instead of making use of hands, trample it with their bare feet ; and they say that one woman can dispatch more work in this way than two or three in the common manner of washing.

This Ayton belongs to my Lord Hume and has a tolerable good house in it for this part of the country ; that is, it has stone walls, glass windows, and is tiled.

From hence we come on to Lammerkin Muir, which looks all black on each side, and is all covered with a short heath (here called heather). This heath they cut off with the surface ground for about an inch thick for fuel ; which they turn up and leave to be dried by the sun, and then it makes very good firing ; they have another kind of turf fuel, which has a blacker look than this taken from the surface of the ground, and is cut out of the earth deeper and thicker. We saw some flocks up and down upon it, and Lammerkin Lions are very famous in this country, by which is meant the lambs on this muir. For some miles here I saw no living creature, but some wretched herds and flocks. I think I heard a cuckoo, and saw two crows, which put me in mind of the justness of a gentleman's reflection in the same country on the like occasion, That those must have been very stupid creatures indeed, that had wings and yet stayed there.

As we come off of this muir towards Cammus we have a sight of the German Ocean again, and if the day had been tolerably clear, the coast of Fife might have been viewed beyond the Forth, we could just discern the Bass, which is a rock in the Forth near the shore upon which over against it is Dunbar. On the Bass was a fortification which held out some time for King James II. but it is now quite demolished, and I think has no inhabitants but the Solan geese which breed there.

Coming down into this bottom, which lies along by the side of the Forth and the sea and is very fertile, but without enclosures, except some very few lately made, we pass by a farm house, within half a mile of Cammus ; betwixt this farm house and Cammus are two or three grounds by the side of the way just sown, the thickest covered with stones that ever I saw, except it be some lands overspread with flints in Buckinghamshire towards Henley.

We were at Auld Cammus (a little village of two or three houses) twelve miles from Berwick in four hours eight minutes, at Dame Sinclair's, who has a tolerable new built brick house, but was furnished with little or no provision but what we brought along with us upon being forewarned of it ; she had a very good small French wine both white and red, the best I think that I tasted in all Scotland. But the best part of the entertainment it afforded was hay for the horses, which was far better than what we had for some time met with, and which I wondered at, for I could see no meadow grounds near, for they plough all up to the very banks of the river for corn, and never let any of it lie fallow.

At three o'clock we left Cammus, and about half-a-mile or more from it we came down a steep descent, at the bottom of which runs a Bourne at the mouth of which we rode upon the flat sands into the sea as the tide was coming in, purely for the curiosity of doing so and seeing the waves break under the belly of the horses, but a very unfortunate accident befell us on this occasion, for after we had been in the salt water for about six or eight minutes, within ten or twelve yards of the shore my Lord's horse reared up violently for several times, so that his Lordship was forced to quit him, and throw himself into the sea; which he happily did upon his feet and was very near up to the middle as the waves struck upon him; but by the assistance of his honest servant Edward Vaughan, who was very quick and expeditious in dismounting and laying hold on his lord, he walked safe to the shore, without any other ill consequence but being much soaked with the water, which considering what might easily have happened in such a case was a very great mercy and deliverance, for which I pray God make us all thankful whenever we reflect upon it.

About three miles from Cammus we pass by Dunglass mills, having left Sir James Hall, who owns Cammus and the estate hereabouts, up a rising ground on the left hand, it has a good deal of new plantation about it, which is the first I remember to have seen in North Britain.

As we travelled on with the German Ocean all on the right, we could just discern [a ship?] in it, at a very great distance, which was the only one we saw all the while that we had a view of the sea in this road. The sight of this vessel gave me a notion of the justness of saying, that one spies a sail, and not a ship; for we could only distinguish a small white appearance at many leagues distance, which was the sail of the ship.

At half a mile's distance from the road we leave Wick Tower, belonging to the Laird of Dirltons, and all this afternoon we travelled through a plentiful country of corn, but without any enclosures; it is lately much improved by a manure of the sea-weed called the sea-were, which grows on the sea rocks and is thence torn off by the waves and thrown upon the shore, from whence the farmers pick it up, and carry it to their grounds in a kind of wicker basket on horses' backs (like the Welsh kewill). It is somewhat of the nature of a large sedge, and makes an admirable manure when rolled on the ground, and to this it may be owing that the land hereabouts constantly produces a crop every year without ever lying fallow.

We passed through or near Kitside, Sketeraugh and East-bar, where we had an unexpected meeting of a coach and six, which was the Countess of Roxburgh's who lives a little farther on the right at a house of the Duke's, called Broksbourne, where there runs a pretty water, and there is a good new wall and plantations about it. Thence by Lochan, Sir John Warenders, Belton water mill, Mr. David Hay's: near which is a pretty good "Change-house," as they call their inns and public houses here, but we had no occasion or temptation to stop at it; near Teningham, Lord Haddington's, on the right, over Lentoun brigg cross a large stream running in a rocky bed, leaving Preston-haugh Kirk to the right. Within a mile or thereabouts of Haddington we passed near two good houses and pretty plantations; that on the high ground on the right hand is the Laird of Beenston's, that on the bottom on the left, the Laird of Deenston's, and is an older plantation than that on the hill. Just a little before we entered into the town of Haddington is on the left hand a late purchased estate of Colonel Charteris's called New Mills, upon a pretty river which runs by the town, I think

called Tyne. We were from Cammus at Haddington reckoned twelve miles in five hours, the coach came forty minutes after us, to the old post house, kept by one Johnston, a surly, scolding, peevish, drunken sort of a man; but had admirable good claret.

May 14.—We left Haddington half an hour after seven this morning, and as we pass from it towards Edinburgh through a small village called Trenant, we have a view of the Forth at the part of it where the Highlanders got over in 1715. Thence we come on by Davistown, where there is a large colliery of great resort. Within four miles of Edinburgh we leave Penky, the Marquis of Tweeddale's, on the left, near Musselbrook and Fisheraugh, on this shore they formerly used to have plenty of shell-fish, which I presume might contribute to their having those names.

Here we entered upon the sands of the Forth, and so continued on till we came within a mile and a half of Edinburgh upon a good causeway which reaches to the "muckletown" of Edinburgh, which we passed directly through without making any stop. We were here in three hours and a half from Haddington, and in two hours and a quarter more at Kirk-Liston, which is six miles farther, where we stopped to bait at a poor house of the widow Stuart's, who had no provision but hard eggs and a good small French white wine; this indeed (as one of our companions with great resignation then expressed himself) "we could have dined upon, but I thank God we had brought something else along with us." This morning's stage is computed eighteen miles, the worst part of the road is that nearest to Edinburgh as we come from it to this Kirk-Liston.

A quarter before five we left Kirk-Liston and six miles off passed through Lithgow (or Linlithgow), a large town, but seems at present to want its full complement of inhabitants, as indeed all the towns I saw in Scotland seem to do, and therefore several houses decay and fall to ruin. Here is a Castle, and a church on the higher part of the town which made a good figure at the distance we saw it; and close to the town on the north side is a large lake, which perhaps may be the reason of its being called Linlithgow: as several names of places in Scotland have the appearance of British original. We leave a handsome conduit, with plenty of good water, on the right hand in the market place as we pass through. At some distance from the town we go over the water Avon, which has a good stone bridge upon it of one large arch, which is the highest turned that I have ever seen, and divides West Lothian or Linlithgowshire from Stirlingshire. We leave Lord Hopetoun's on the right and several smaller gentry's houses. This is all an open corn country, and though its yearly produce of grain must be very considerably above what the inhabitants consume, yet you see no stock in reserve, no stacks of corn in the farm-yards. As we come near to Falkirk, my Lord Lithgow's seat is on the left, and we pass by the largest enclosure I have yet seen in the country. We were at Falkirk from Kirk Liston which is computed twelve miles in four hours and a half: where we had the poorest accommodation for lodging that we have yet met with, and this is the only place where I thought it prudent to lie in my night gown, which I do where I have any suspicion of dampness or any other inconvenience. Here a gentleman of the neighbourhood (Sir Alexander Hope) would needs come in to Mr. Gowland and me after my Lord had retired into his bed-chamber, and being pretty much in liquor was very troublesome with his civilities and hindered us for some time from taking that rest we were more desirous of than any company.

May 15.—I had just time to step into the churchyard this morning but saw nothing there worth notice but a table monument in the south side of it of Sir John the Grame which has been lately repaired or rather renewed. The inscription is very freshly cut upon it, but I take it to be the original one. He was a great champion for the Scots in their contests with the English at that time, and his memory is still much regarded. I think there are more inscriptions upon it than what I copied, but it rained and I was in such a hurry that I did not so much as read them; very probably there may be upon it an account of the repairer.

It was within ten minutes of nine o'clock before we left Falkirk this morning and went on towards Stirling, leaving Sir Hugh Paterson's on the left, who married a sister of my Lord Mar's; we were at Stirling in three hours, but made no stay there; but crossed over the Forth at Stirling Bridge (Brigg), where the gates are so narrow that the coach which is of a pretty large size met some difficulty in passing through. We went on for about a mile upon a high and rough causeway, leaving Alloway, my Lord Mar's, about four miles down the Forth, we were two hours and a quarter coming from Stirling to Dumblane which is reckoned but four miles, but the road is so very uneven, rocky, up hill and down hill, that makes it very tedious for a coach: there is a shorter and easier bridle way by turning off after passing Stirling Brigg to the left hand. We come over a stone bridge cross the river into Dumblane.

Over against the house where we baited, which was but a very indifferent change, is Bishop Leighton's Library, a good square room, and not ill stocked with books of Divinity. There is a librarian constantly attending, whose salary is the interest of 300*l*. The present one is the Rev. Mr. Douglas, who keeps an Episcopal meeting in the town. Here has been a very handsome church, the west part of it lies now all in ruins, excepting the walls and pillars, which are still standing. The east part of it is covered in, and makes the "paroch kirk" for the Presbyterians.

Hereabouts is an estate of about 500*l*. per annum belonging to the second son of the Earl of Kinnoull, who has the patronage of thirteen churches in this neighbourhood.

At four this afternoon we left Dumblane, and within less than a mile of it came over part of Sheriffmuir, leaving the field of battle in 1715 close by on the right hand; where the forces commanded by the Duke of Argyll had a very advantageous situation on a high but gentle ascent, which commanded an entire view of the whole disposition of those under the command of my Lord Mar. The routed Highlanders fled to the hills on the left over the plain of Strathallan, having first plundered their own baggage which was left behind towards the Water of Allan; for it is never their custom to return home empty-handed, and without having some plunder from their own men, if they have not been able to get at any booty from the enemy.

Some miles from hence we leave a Roman camp on the right at Ardoch upon the river Knayeck. I am informed that in the middle of this Camp is a large hole, which leads down to a subterraneous passage, and my Lord Perth when Chancellor is said to have procured a pardon to some capital criminal, upon condition he would go down and make search after what might be found in this cavern. He was let down into it by ropes, and the first time brought up a stone with a Roman inscription, which I am told is now to be seen in the garden wall at Drummond Castle: the second time he brought a pair of

Roman spurs, but where they are now to be met with I know not. He was let down the third time, but never returned again alive; he made a noise below for the people to haul him up, which they mistook for signs to give more rope, and so the poor wretch was suffocated.

We passed all this afternoon but through an indifferent country, being chiefly moors or heaths, and came to a ford at the Water of Arne, within three miles of Dupplin House. It is a pretty large stream, and was at this time fordable. In case it had not been so, there is a ferry boat a furlong or two up the water. We got to Dupplin House from Dumblane, which is here computed eighteen miles, in five hours fifty minutes, but it was now so duskish that we missed being very agreeably surprised at our approach to Dupplin, by a view of the vast tract of plantations all around it, begun and carried on by the late Earl of Kinnoull, the present having made but a small addition to them. They cover some thousands of acres of land, which was before so barren that it was of little or no value, but the plantations have throve here so well (especially the Scotch firs) that the late Earl lived to cut some of them down which he had planted himself, and with them built a very noble barn. This is the finest sight I have yet seen, or expect to see in the whole kingdom of Scotland, and is a great example and encouragement for setting about the improvement of the country, that it well deserves the serious consideration of the nobility and gentry of that nation who have the prosperity of their country at heart. And indeed the spirit of planting seems of late years to have stirred a little amongst them, as you may observe by several small improvements of this kind dispersed up and down the country, though nothing that I have seen is to be compared with this of Dupplin. This was proposed as the end of our progress to the Northward, and accordingly we rested here some days.

May 16.—This morning about eleven o'clock I read Prayers, and a Sermon to the family in the dining room below stairs; and read Prayers again there in the afternoon, which I did constantly twice a day during our stay there.

May 17.—This morning we stayed within doors, but in the afternoon walked down through the garden by the Teacher Mass-Mercer's (*sic*) house (called here the manse) and glebe; just by this manse are the ruins of an old chapel, where they still bury; it belonged to the Kinnoull family. Both here and in other burying places in the North it is common to carve upon the grave-stone the tools the person buried made use of in his occupation, whether he were a labourer or an artificer. Close by runs the Water of Arne, where we came to see them fishing for salmon, but had not the satisfaction of seeing them take any, though we attended some hours, and returned in the dusk of the evening.

May 18.—Within doors all day till towards the evening, when we walked out in the South plantations, and down from them to the mill, where, in the weir that turns the water to it from the river Arne, is a machine placed for the taking of salmon, which they call The Cruves, contrived so that the fish shall come in, but by no means get out again till they are taken.

May 19.—This morning about nine I rode out with my Lord, the Laird of Auchtertire, Mr. John Murray, John Morley, Esq. (bechaised), Mr. Gowland and servants, up the hill directly from the house through the plantations, in order to go and see Scone. About two miles from Dupplin we pass by the Kirk of Keffermure. The teacher here has for this twelvemonths past been "staged" for adultery. This staging

process is made use of against any of the ministry, whenever the Presbytery takes upon it, upon some real or pretended information given, to make an inquiry into their life and conversation, or when, as they term it, there is a *Fama clamoza* against any person gone forth into the land, but especially if there be any surmises about the foul act of fornication, as it has been the case of this man for above a year together, and as the Kirk may be moved thereunto, he may be kept on the stage a year or more longer. The evidence cited against him are his own parishioners, who upon the encouragement of the Kirk are to produce all the circumstances they can put together, as being alone with any woman, using any degree of familiarity, which the Kirk is to put together in order to form its judgment upon, &c. Though this man has none of the best characters for his moral life, yet as far as I could understand his chief crime is having been once Episcopal, and playing the Vicar of Bray upon them, and keeping his living, when the rest of his Episcopal brethren were ejected; and it is not improbable that if he gets off with this staging bout and lives to see the Church of Scotland again Episcopal, he will still be for keeping fast hold of Keffermure, whatever be the consequence.

From hence we passed through Blackraven and down to that plain where the water of Amond runs, which seems formerly to have been a much larger river, and navigated, but is now but a small stream till it mixes with the river Tay about two miles below this place. This the inhabitants are confirmed in by a large nook or recess in those banks by which we descended, and which they are informed by tradition was formerly a Haven, and by the view of it one would imagine it had very probably been such, and to confirm this the more, they give an account of an anchor found there about threescore years ago.

We leave Huntingtower, the seat of the Duke of Atholl, on the right hand, which has a remarkable story of the two maiden towers in it; which have their name from one of the daughters of the family upon a surprise leaping sheer out of one into the other. Going by the side of this river towards the Tay, we pass a flock of sheep which were very singular for their horns, some having three and some four. Those which had four horns had two of them growing almost perpendicular, somewhat like a goat's, and the other two turned about like those of common sheep. We ferried over the river Tay just where the water of Amond joins it within about a quarter of a mile of Scone. It is called the boat of Rome, and the ferryman the Pope. We did not take our horses over, but walked up from hence to Scone. It has no gardening in any order about it, but you plainly see the footsteps of them. There are some rooms in the house pretty well furnished and fitted up. Under the Royal Arms over one of the chimneys are these words:—*"Nobis hæc inivicta miserunt centum sæc proari."* The same inscription is in stone over a gate on the south side of the Church, where the arms are an unicorn holding a shield with a lion in it.

That apartment where the Chevalier de St. George lay here in 1715 is a tolerable good one, though it has nothing in it of royal magnificence. In the next room to the chamber where he lay they show a small piece of the marble chimney-piece which was shot off at that time by one of the pages, who was playing with some pistols which lay in the room and let one of them off. The gentlemen in the next room imagined it had been some treachery and were going to hew the boy in pieces, but that his master stepping in at the instant saved his life. The most remarkable piece of furniture here is a bed, the curtains of which they say is the handiwork of Queen Mary. The Gallery has in

its time been doubtless reckoned a very notable one, but has not much to recommend it at this time.

From the House we walked into the Kirk just by, which has now little of decency or curiosity in the inside, but a handsome marble monument of David Lord Stormont, which I had not time to take the inscriptions from. The church yard is the greatest curiosity if there be any heed to be given to the common account of it; it is called *Omnia Terra*, and the reason of giving that name is, because some part of the soil of all the free-lands in Scotland has been brought hither to compose this piece of ground, which is accordingly looked upon as the representative of all the estates of the Kingdom, so that coming to this churchyard and breaking up the ground is an effectual taking possession of an estate, as if you went to the very place where it lay. They tell you further that the reason of making up this compounded soil was the great difficulty that was often to be met with in going to take possession in that very part of the Kingdom where the estate itself might lie; and therefore this compendious way was contrived, which should be looked upon as effectual to all intents and purposes.

Perth is about a mile distant from hence down the river Tay. A great deal of the Scotch cloth is made hereabouts. From hence we returned the same way home to Dupplin House about two o'clock, having rode about ten miles.

After dinner I walked out towards the S.W. to see a stone cross I had heard some talk about; it lies about a furlong beyond the plantations upon a pretty sharp declension of the hill towards the Water of Arne. It is eight feet three inches high. I could not learn any satisfactory account of it; the common tradition of the place is, that it was a station for part of the Guards to the King's Palace, which was on the other side of the river Arne; that there was such another cross on the other side of the river near the Palace, where the like Guard was kept, to which those placed at this cross were to give notice by the blowing of a horn, upon the approach of any number of people that way. There are some rude, uncouth carvings upon it, and I think the figure of a dog, &c., but I could not discern, nor make out any letters. It might probably have been a place for some Christian worshippers to assemble at in very early times.

We went down from hence to the riverside and there angled for trout, but were as unfortunate in meeting any sport as we were before in our attempt upon the salmon.

This afternoon betwixt four and five o'clock I rode out with Mr. Gowland to see the town of Perth, which I was chiefly induced to do upon account of the fame it obtained in this part of the world in 1715. We left the Parish Church of Dupplin (Abernethy) on the right hand in a large dene (as they call a dingle or vale here) and the heath or moor where my Lord Kinnoull has been at a considerable expense for some time in sinking a pit for coals on the right hand. The town seems to have no unpleasant summer situation in a flat bottom upon the river Tay which is navigated with vessels of a tolerable good burden into the very town. We came into it over that flat where some poor works were thrown up after their flight hither from Sheriffinnuir, which could not have been of any extraordinary strength by the account the inhabitants who were concerned in that affair give of them; and they are at this time all levelled and ploughed up, and no remains of them to be observed. The town is somewhat of a square form, and

has some good houses in it; when I say good houses I mean in comparison of those I have generally seen in other towns I passed through. Here is a good free school lately built, and is no mean room of fifty three feet by thirty, and twenty feet high. It has an upper master with 30*l.* sterling salary, an under master with 20*l.* per annum, and two ushers with 10*l.* a year each. They must certainly have their boys here under good awe and discipline, for there is not the least hacking nor scratching upon any of the seats or benches, which are very neat. The Town House is likewise new, but does not seem to be so well proportioned a room as the school house.

The church here was designed for a much larger building than it is at present, but how the progress and finishing of it came to be interrupted I do not learn. As it is at this time it contains two distinct preaching places under its roof; that at the end of it is very lately fitted up, and contains a much less space than that at the other end, but those new seats will hold a very large congregation, being so contrived as to have no room for those that sit in them to kneel at their devotions, which is thought to be too great a compliment to be paid to the Almighty in this part of the world, as likewise to be uncovered in any part of their devotions.

Here is an Episcopal minister belonging to the town, the Rev. Mr. Murray, the ejected incumbent of Dunkeld; but being a non-juror has from time to time suffered no small persecution from the Presbytery.

On the other side of the river Tay is the great Hill of Kinnoull, which gives title to the Earl, and on the same side of the river hard by the shore is the church where the monument of Chancellor Hay is, but the time would not permit me to cross over and see it.

Down the river on the Perth side, and close by the town are the ruins of a fortification, which seems to have been pretty near an exact square, but now is almost levelled with the common surface, and good grass grows upon every part of it. It was built by Oliver Cromwell and stood entire till some years since it was begged by the inhabitants for the sake of the advantage they could make of the stone, which (as I was informed) amounted to 2,000*l.* sterling, and seemed to me a very great sum to be made of stones that stood upon so small a parcel of ground, and in a country where there does not appear to be any great scarcity of that commodity.

They value themselves here for making very fine kid gloves for ladies, and they are so very choice of them, that I could get but three pairs to bring off with me for a pattern to the southern glovers; but I cannot see anything in those I have which should make them so very valuable, except it be my honoured ladies accepting them as the only curiosity I found to traffic in, about the neighbourhood of the Highlands.

While I am in this metropolis of the Highlands, I must not forget to put down a specimen of their language, which they called Irs (Erse). It is an Irs Catch, or song dictated to me by the Laird of Auchtertire, and taking it down only from his mouth and not remembering to get it afterwards corrected must doubtless be very faulty in the orthography:—

O fer machri en lhan !
 Kemer chwts mish toll dachi
 Mac na brach tol ma'chiane
 Kemer chwts mish toll dachi
 Nach emerich ma shafswn ma'chiane.

which word for word is thus in Latin—

O mei cordis gaudium cervisia!
 Quomodo possum ego ire Domum
 Filius (cum sit) in meo capite?
 Quomodo possum ego ire domum
 Non portantibus meis pedibus meum caput.

In English somewhat to this sense—

Thou sweet smiling ale!
 Thou joy of my soul!
 O how can I ever gang hame to my bed!
 Sen the son of the malt is crope into my head.
 O how can I ever gang hame to my bed,
 Sen my feet ben not abill to hold up my head.

We were back at Dupplin House about eight o'clock, which is about three miles distant from Perth to the N.W. This house was built by the late Lord, and stands about the middle of the descent of a considerable hill towards the river Arne, which runs in winding meanders at the bottom, and affords an agreeable prospect from the house. It was formerly surrounded with a deep rocky dene which has at a very great expense (some thousands of pounds sterling) been filled up and levelled, excepting a small part on the south side, which I suppose is to remain as it is. The outside of the house and offices makes a better figure than any seat I have seen in the country, and I dare pronounce that the ornament of the inside is not perhaps inferior to that of any seat in the whole Island, which I am confident anyone will agree with me, who has ever had an opportunity of conversing with the fine lady who is mistress of it, at the head of her numerous family of most delicate children, such as that man might justly esteem himself happy in, who had his quiver so full of them, and very truly account an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord. And now being to depart to-morrow morning, I am going to take my leave of her and her pretty infants, which I do by pouring out my most hearty wishes and prayers for their health and prosperity and may they all ever meet that love and respect they seem so highly deserving of, and in short (to borrow the hearty expression of our fellow traveller) "God's blessing on the heart of my Lady Kinnoull."

May 22.—At ten o'clock this morning we left Dupplin, and crossed the water of Arne the very way that we came, which is a pretty strong and large stream: Sir Patrick Murray, an elderly worthy gentleman (who lives about fourteen miles off, and came on purpose to Dupplin to wait upon my Lord), took his leave of his Lordship at this place, after having passed the river with us, which he was to ford back again immediately in order to go his way home. I wondered that being an old man, and the passage not so very secure and easy, he would ford the river twice, where I thought there was no occasion for him to do it once; but I found it to be a generous, unalterable principle amongst the Scottish men, never to part with their friend at the bank of a river which they must leave him to cross; especially if there be any danger in the passing of it, but to go through with him and then take their leave and return.

We were going towards Stirling in the very track we came, till one of our company Mr. John Murray, undertook to conduct us over the Ochill Hills on horseback, that so we might see Alloway, in our way to Stirling. Accordingly we let the coach go on in this road, and turned short upon our left towards the Lord Rollo's, and we made this passage at least four miles longer by not going off to the Ochill Hills

immediately from Dupplin. At the beginning of the ascent to these Hills we go by a small village called Dunning; thence over the Hills by a vale called Glendefen; and miles farther crossed the river Defen at the Brigg of Sansarf; to which we come down by a very steep, untoward descent; where if a horse or man should chance to stumble, they may tumble down several score yards perpendicular into the river. But this we were told was a very delightful pass, in comparison of that which was upon the same river about two or three miles off to the left: it is called Rumbling brigg, and consists only of one flat stone about four feet wide and ten feet long, and is laid over from rock to rock. It is above thirty fathoms (some say seventy) from this brigg to the surface of the water that runs underneath; and the jackdaws, which build in the rocks below it, are continually making a noise and cawing there as they fly beneath; and the water making a perpetual noise at that hollow distance has given it the name of Rumbling brigg.

All hereabouts on each hand are hills of a prodigious height, but not being very rocky seem to be admirable sheep pasture, though the sides we saw of them were but very poorly stocked, which upon our taking notice of the ill husbandry and inquiring the reason of it from the gentlemen of the country that were along with us, were answered, that their main stock of sheep and cattle were at this time of the year much higher up on the hills, this being reserved for their winter pasture, but they told this in such a manner, that it seemed but a faint excuse for the negligent management of their countrymen.

After passing Sansarf brig about two miles to the left we view Lochleven, where there is a Castle in which Mary Queen of Scots was confined twelve years. miles from Sansarf we come to a bottom, and cross a beck called Holbourne. miles from hence we cross

the river Defen again at a ford; this river takes very strange turnings amongst the Ochill Hills, so that it runs parallel to itself different ways for many miles together. After passing this ford we see on the right hand, on this declivity of the Ochill Hills in a large dene, a house of the Duke of Argyll's, called Castell Campbell, and is said to be a hunting seat, but I am not sportsman sufficient to determine what kind of hunting this part of the country may afford.

As we come on from hence towards Alloway we pass close by a Loch which I could not learn the name of: but out of it issues a pretty stream of water, which we pass over and being upon a considerable eminence may be made very useful for watering a great deal of ground. Here are some collieries on this Hill, by which we come down to Alloway leaving Sir John Erskine's on the right under the great Hills, at the bottom of which near his house has been discovered within these few years by an odd accident a considerable silver mine, or, as they call it, a nest of silver: what it has produced is kept as a secret, but generally supposed to be about 10,000*l*.

Alloway, the seat of my Lord Mar, is situated in a large bottom north of the river Forth betwixt the Ochill Hills on the one side and the Corse of Stirling on the other; and had his Lordship continued to have enjoyed it to this time, had very probably been the most delightful seat in all Scotland. His gardens which he designed and laid out himself are at this time kept in tolerable good order, and in them we walked upon gravel which was brought thither from the pits at Kensington; it was taken in at London for ballast, and ships of a considerable burden (perhaps five hundred tons) sailing up the Forth

just by the end of his garden made the expense not so very material as one would imagine, upon barely hearing that Kensington gravel was conveyed hither purely to make up the walks.

There are some woods adjoining to the garden with some ridings cut through them, they consist chiefly of alder and some few oaks intermixed, which seem to thrive well enough considering the ground is very swampish and damp.

The house is at present but in very indifferent order: there is a great deal of additional building to the old house begun just as his Lordship engaged in the unhappy enterprise which obliged his flight from it, and continues now in the same condition wherein he left it. Had it been his fortune to have enjoyed it with quiet to this time, it would without doubt have been as complete an habitation as this part of the world could afford, and his genius have formed.

It grew now pretty late in the evening and we were to make what haste we could to Stirling, which is four miles, and (as far as I can recollect) we passed the river Defen again betwixt this place and the causeway leading to Stirling Bridge, through a very fertile ground lying upon the banks of the Forth we come into Stirling over the rough causeway I mentioned before, and over the Brigg, from whence we go upon a considerable ascent into the town. We had just a few minutes of the day remaining to step and see the Castle through a handsome broad street that leads up into it. At the upper end of this street as we go to the Castle, there is an old house of the Duke of Argyll's on the right hand; and another of Lord Mar's on the left, upon the outside of which, over the gate towards the left, is this inscription

I. PRAY. AL. LVKARIS. ON. THYS. LVGYNG.
WITH. GENTYLL. E. TO. GIE THAIR IVGYNG.

Towards the right hand is this

THE. MOIR. I. STAND. ON. OPPIN SITHT
MY. FAVLTIS. MOIR. SVBIECT. AR. TO. SITHT.

On the inside over the gate

ESPY. SPEIK. FVRTH. AND. SPAIR. NOTHT
CONSIDIR. WEIL. I CAIR NOTHT.

There is a date in an obscure place towards the top of the wall above the gate on the inside which as well as I could discern at that distance was 1572. The architecture seems to have been by the same hand with that of the Palace, which was built by James V.

The Castle stands upon a rock at the end of a hill much in the same manner with that of Edinburgh, but does not appear at present to be in so good a condition for strength. Here are pretty good lodgings in it, fitted up by my Lord Mar who was Heritable Governor. The Deputy Governor enjoys them at present; from these windows you command the prospect of the country every way. The most agreeable one is the view of that bottom where the Forth runs betwixt Alloway and Stirling brigg, which though the distance by land (the way we came) be but four miles, yet by water it is twenty four, so surprisingly does the river twist and wind itself about in that flat bottom, which I take to be in no part above a mile over. Here are within the verge of

the Palace, on different sides, two very handsome, capacious rooms, were they put in order, that designed for the Chapel and that for the Parliament to sit in, which is now chiefly filled up with some warlike stores.

It now began to grow duskish, and we hastened thence to St. Nynians, a little village a mile this side Stirling, vulgarly called St. Ringins. It was past nine o'clock before we got in hither, to a 'change' kept by one Cummins. We were six hours and three quarters coming from Dupplin to Alloway, which is computed but sixteen miles, two hours from Alloway to Stirling computed but four miles; so that we were in continual motion for above eleven hours this day, without any refreshment but a glass of wine the Governor of Stirling entertained us with, who seems a civil well-behaved man though a stiff Presbyterian.

It was about one o'clock before I went to rest, which gave me an opportunity of observing the *Aurora Borealis* here, which appeared at this hour, so clear and glaring as if the sun were just rising.

May 23.—Our being at this place this Sunday morning afforded us an opportunity of a sight which was curious enough for a stranger. It was that Meeting or Assembly of the members of the Presbyterian Kirk, which is by them termed an Occasion: and perhaps may be so called because the Celebration of the Sacrament is the occasion of such assembling together. There is notice given some time before hand when and where this Occasion is to be held, at which time and place (which is generally one of the Kirks most commodious for its largeness) the ministers of the several "Parochs," to the number of ten, twenty, or perhaps thirty sometimes, are desired to attend and give their assistance, according as their several parts are allotted to them of praying or preaching, which is to continue without any intermission both within the kirk and without it in some field adjoining for this whole day from morning to night. St. Ringins was the place appointed for this day's solemnity, and about ten o'clock we went forth to observe it; both the church and the field they were met in being within a bowshot of our inn. We first walked into that part of the open ground where they met to the number of many hundreds, and disposed themselves on a shelving ground facing their preacher, who held forth at the lower part of it, from a tent erected for that purpose. This part of the occasional assembly seemed altogether made up of the very meanest sort of people that this country could show. It was a rainy day, but they sat or stood it out with great patience and attention to what the twentieth part of them could not possibly hear one word of, or rather indeed I should say one sentence: for the preacher every now and then took care to lift up his voice at some particular, insignificant word which might reach the ears of the greatest part of the congregation: the present preacher seemed an elderly and weakly man, but had a special knack at this elevation of tone when he saw convenient. I pressed on through the crowd, till I came so near that I could hear him distinctly, he soon satisfied my curiosity with a confused medley and jargon of words, uttered with great emotion; and I could not tell which to compassionate the most, the preacher or the spectators: for I cannot properly call them the hearers.

The field exercise seems to be contrived only as an entertainment and amusement to keep those poor people together, who cannot get into the church till room be made for them, by the retirement of some of

those who crowd within it, so that they make a continual succession, whilst those who are tired of their entertainment within doors are glad of getting forth into the fresh air and a fresh amusement, and those of the field are ready to succeed and take their places.

After seeing their disposition in the open air, we got into the body of the church by the favour of a porter who kept the door constantly shut, but when people had occasion to come out, or enter in. It was exceedingly thronged both in the body of the church and in the lofts or galleries; however, we pressed forward through the crowd till we came pretty near the pulpit where Master Loggin, the parish minister, was just upon the conclusion of his sermon, which was the first that day, and called the Earnest sermon: after which, having sung a psalm, he gave the discharge, that is, he generally pronounced the several sort of sinners whom he discharged or forbid from partaking of the Sacrament. After which a psalm was again sung, and then he came down from the pulpit into the body of the church (another immediately mounting up in his room) where some boards were laid for the whole length of it from west to east about two feet wide and the height of a table, and covered over with an ordinary linen cloth. The persons who were first to communicate, about fifty or more, sat on each side (but to the best of my remembrance were all uncovered). The minister stood about the middle of it, and after some short preface signifying to what purpose they were met on that occasion, he read to them that part of the chapter to the Corinthians from whence the Church of England takes the Form of the Consecration Prayer. When this was done the persons thereunto appointed went down on each side of the long table I before mentioned, and received the tickets from every person, that was sat down in order to communicate: for without producing such a ticket (as described on the other side), no person was admitted. When these officers were returned with the tickets to the Minister who stood at the side of the table about the centre of the kirk, he proceeded to send the bread to the Communicants on each hand of him, it was shoved along the table on platters which held each of them several large pieces of wheaten bread, which the people took out thence, and divided every man with his neighbours that sat near him on the same side or over against him. After this followed the flagons with the wine, which every one took and drank according to his discretion. We did not stay within the kirk until this set of communicants were removed and the next sermon begun: for indeed the crowd was great and very troublesome to stand in for so long a time; though some people of a better sort who were placed in pews near the place where I stood very civilly invited me to come in and sit down with them, which could I have afforded to have stayed much longer, I should gladly have accepted: but my curiosity was by this time pretty well satisfied, and I was very willing to retire both on account of the various offensiveness met with in the common throng, and the disagreeable and shocking appearance their celebration of this duty carried in it, especially to those who thought they had great reason upon this sight to bless God for having been used to a behaviour very different both as to decency and reverence of it.

I am told there are frequent disorders amongst the poor people on these occasions, who being to make a whole day of it at the place where they meet, cannot be supposed wholly to abstain from meat and drink, and sometimes to go to excess in the latter. But as I saw nothing of this kind, I cannot charge them with it. It was now about eleven o'clock in the morning, and if there ever are any excesses of this

kind committed it most probably must happen towards the evening; and indeed no wonder it should fall out so, where there are so many thousands of ordinary people got together, as generally attend these occasions, there being already at this place three thousand at least, besides great numbers that were continually coming on their way, and very probably there might be double the number before the close of the evening.

At half past eleven this morning we left St. Nynians, we were under some necessity to proceed on our journey on this day, because of the obligation my Lord was under to be at Morpeth by such a day.

We passed over Bannockburn, where King James the Third of Scotland was murdered; hard by it is a place called Newmarket, and a colliery which produces coals of the Newcastle kind. On our left hand about four miles from St. Ringins in that fertile plain called the Corse of Stirling, is Woodside, a house of Sir George Dunbar's, and somewhat further in the same plain is Mr. James Graham's, Judge Admiral, who about five years since repaired or rather renewed that monument of Sir John the Grane in the churchyard of Falkirk, as already mentioned. Five miles from St. Ringins we pass over the water Carron, famed for the meeting of Bruce and Sir William Wallace, the latter of whom was treacherously given up into his enemies' hands at a house where he was entertained in this neighbourhood. The signal given for seizing him was the turning of a loaf the wrong side upwards where he sat at table. This was a piece of treachery so detested by the Scottish people, that I am informed a Scot cannot bear at this day to see a loaf so turned, but wherever he sees it will immediately place it right again, but the truth of this I have never yet seen experimented.

We were at Linlithgow in four hours and a quarter, being eleven miles; where after having stopped for a little refreshment till five o'clock, we then set forward for Edinburgh through a very heavy rain. It was ten o'clock before we got in there, we supped at Mrs. Don's commonly called "Lucky Donne" in the High Street, an eating house of good credit. We had our lodgings at Mrs. Scott's in the same street, and our horses were at a third place; for there are no inns in Edinburgh as at other places, that can supply the proper entertainment for both men and horses; but persons of any fashion always provide for themselves after this manner (if their stay be but only for one night as it was our case) by having their horses at one place, eating at another, and lodging at a third.

May 24.—We went to the Parliament House, walking up the High Street, and in the middle of it, not on the side close to the houses as generally in other towns; and the paving being very good, of a small flat stone (such as that which has lately been done at Whitehall), makes it very convenient walking. This work was performed by two Frenchmen, and we were informed, that they were buried according to their own request in the middle of this street. This paving may last here a considerable time, there being no heavier wheel carriages than hackney coaches to destroy it.

The Parliament House seems to have a very large and commodious room for that purpose, and the roof of it has very notable workmanship. Hard by it are the Courts of Justice, the Advocates' Library where is a good collection of books, both printed and MSS. and likewise a very large and valuable quantity of coins both foreign and domestic, all under the care and custody of the worthy Librarian, Mr. Ruddiman, a very courteous and understanding gentleman.

The rooms where their papers of records are kept, are close by the Library, but they as well as the Library are so much underground, that they must doubtless be subject to great damp. There are some old "Leger books" in this Library, particularly *Liber See. Mariæ de Calchou*, "*Registrum Monasterii de Cambuskenneth*," &c. From hence we went up to the Castle, which is situate upon a high rock on the extremity of the city, and is by nature exceedingly strong, and one would imagine might be made almost impregnable; it narrowly escaped being seized at the time of the insurrection in 1715. The persons who were to get possession of it met at the time and place appointed beneath the wall, and were disappointed of putting their design in execution, by the neglect of the person whose province it was to take care of the rope ladder, which upon putting to trial, was found to be considerably too short, and so they forced to disperse again and the whole was discovered, and a sergeant within the Castle who was in confederacy with them was hanged on the gibbet which is now standing at that part of the Castle where they were to mount.

Most of the houses in this city are of a very remarkable height, some being of ten, some of twelve, thirteen and fourteen stories high, more particularly in the Parliament Close, where you enter in upon a level with the street into the fourth or fifth story in several houses. The meaning of this, that the town is built upon a narrow hill, upon the ridge of which runs the main street, and fronting this street the houses have five or six stories and as many more towards the other side or back part of them on the declivity of the hill.

At half past five we set out for Leith, but made a short stop to look into Holyrood House which is very handsome and noble and very fit for the reception of a Prince, were it completely furnished. The Gallery is furnished with pictures of their Kings, but of no great curiosity or value. Duke Hamilton has lodgings in it, and is Heritable Keeper of it.

From hence we went directly to Leith, which lies upon the Forth a mile off Edinburgh, very commodious for trafficking, which consists chiefly in the wine trade. They have lately erected a new pier here, but at present is by no means convenient, and the expense of making it so is likely to prove so very great, that it will probably be a considerable time before it can be thoroughly completed.

Directly cross the Forth from hence to Kinghorn is seven miles.

From Leith, where we parted with Mr. Drummond and Mr. John Murray at seven (the former of whom had attended my Lord all this day, and the other all the time from Dupplin), we made the best of our way to Haddington in three hours and fifty minutes, it being almost eleven o'clock at night, twelve miles.

May 25.—At nine this morning we left Haddington, and came on the direct road we had come before, to Auld Cammas, in five hours twenty five minutes being twelve miles. We made a little stop at Lenton Brigg to view the procession of a Scotch wedding which was coming along our road from Lenton Kirk. The man and his company walked first, and the woman led by two men, with her train of women followed. Before the man went a curious concert of music, consisting of a bagpipe and a fiddle; but before the woman and her attendants was only a single solemn bagpiper. The only piece of ceremony we saw performed was their breaking a cake over the Bride's head as she entered her house, and then scrambling for it.

We left Auld Cammas at five, and came on the direct road into Berwick in three hours fifty minutes. On the right hand betwixt Ayton and Berwick seems to be a tolerable good house of one Morinton's, which I could not see as we went this way before, because of the fog which likewise hindered that large prospect of the German Ocean which we now had on our return.

May 26.—This morning a quarter before eight we left Berwick, and took a guide from thence in order to conduct us a different way to Belford from that which we came on the sea shore, the tide at this time not permitting us to make use of that road. But this good leader of ours instead of turning to the upper way, which he ought to have done, almost as soon as we had got over the Tweed carries on directly to Goswick, where we were to enter from the Warren upon the sea sand, where if we had proceeded we must have been intercepted by the tide; but as we were there advised we turned back again to get into the other road, and we had gone quite wrong again by the direction of our honest guide, had not Mr. Watson, a gentleman who lives at the house where we turned back, very courteously sent his servant after us, who conducted us the most short and direct way, passing by Agust (?), and Eglingham, where we saw a great deal of lately improved grounds on each side of us, with tight, low, new farm houses; thence through Burton which is within three miles of Belford, whither we got in five hours and fifty, having by the assistance of our guide made it sixteen miles instead of twelve.

From Belford this afternoon at twenty after four, leaving Bamberough Castle belonging to Mr. Foster at some distance to the left, by Charlton within five miles, and Holywell Hill head within one mile of Alnwick, from whence there is all the way a continued descent till we come down to the river Alne, and so by the Castle into the town of Alnwick; we came hither from Belford on horseback in three hours and a half, but the coach was four hours forty minutes coming twelve miles.

May 27.—This morning about five minutes before six, we rode up the hill to the west from Alnwick, in order to have a view of that part of my Lord's estate which lies some miles that way, leaving the coach and its inhabitant Mr. Morley to proceed the common road to Morpeth. About three miles from Alnwick a little distance on our left is Lennington, a house of Mr. Alderman Fenwick's of Newcastle. Some miles farther we pass through Eslington, part of the estate of Sir Harry Lyddell, formerly Mr. Collingwood's who forfeited in the late insurrection. Here are several new good farm houses on this estate which were begun by Mr. Collingwood and carried on by the late purchaser. We pass close by Callioe, a house of — Clavering's, who was likewise amongst the unfortunate gentlemen of that country in 1715, but procured his pardon by the interposition of the late Lord Cowper on his behalf, bearing very probably some relation to that Lord's wife, who was a Clavering.

Not far from this house we pass over a small brook, and come into Larbottle belonging to my Lord Oxford, computed to be about twelve miles from Alnwick the way we came. We pass on without any stop through this town and go on to another part of my Lord's estate called Sharperton lying upon the river Cocute: through which we cross over to see a very large spring on the other side of it called Haliwell, and the town it belongs to, Halystane, where formerly was a Nunnery, and probably some Holy stone, as well as a Holy well, which the good ladies might have some peculiar reverence for. At the upper

end of this Vale where the river Cocute runs, is Harbottle Castle now in ruins, and upon a rising ground on the east side of the river is Hagarstone, a house of Sir Ed : Gascoigne's ; and a pleasant site this Vale affords either for religious or lay inhabitants. We come back again from Halistone through the river, and go up a rising ground till we come to the ruins of an old chapel on the highest part of it, called the Kirk on the Hill, and lies betwixt Sharperton and Hepple tower. Just by this ruin lies a hollow stone which seems to have been the font belonging to the Kirk. They continue still to bury at this place, but not very frequently. The site and estate round about is my Lord Oxford's, as is Hepple tower to which we came next, it is now only a house for the farmer, but was formerly as well as all the other towers in this country a place of refuge and defence for men and cattle against the incursions and depredations of their ravenous neighbours ; the cattle were drove into the bottom part and their owners defended them from the top of the tower with the proper arms.

From hence rode up to Plainfield, Lord Oxford's, where the first rendez-vous was at the late rising, it is upon the top of a rising ground in the midst of a pretty large open plain, and has good pleasant land about it especially towards the side of the Cocute. Hence we went on to Plotterton, Lord Oxford's, Warton, cross the river to the Rye Hill up to Mochill Toston, where at the house of one Carnaby, we refreshed ourselves with what provision we had brought along with us, having been about six hours and three quarters on horseback, and rode about twenty miles.

On this side of the Cocute is that high, rocky mountain, belonging to my Lord Oxford and containing many thousands of acres, called Symonside, it is reckoned to be one of the highest in the country, and being to be seen a great way from the German Ocean, is a kind of mark or sight for the seamen, and may therefore perhaps have been originally called the "Seamen's Sight," though now turned into Symonside.

At thirty-five minutes after two, we left Toston, leaving Symonside on our right, and Rothbury about half a mile to the left, and rode for about six miles over a very bad moor, which it is almost impossible to get over with any safety, without a guide particularly well acquainted with the passes : but how uncouth soever it be, it affords some limestone which we passed by, and is thought by the people of this country to be the best of any in England. At the end of these six miles we come to another estate of my Lord Oxford's, called North Middleton, where one would be surprised to see such admirable good ground, after passing over such a rude and barren one to come at it. They breed very good cattle here, and have the largest "bagged" cows (as they call it) that I think I ever saw. We came on over Harbourne brigg, by a park wall of my Lord Derwentwater's, but the enclosure disparted about thirty years ago. Within a mile of Morpeth we cross over the Wansbeck at Mydford bridge : and after crossing it backwards and forwards four times more, we came into the town of Morpeth at a ford which is over against their new Bell house, which stands by itself in the middle of the street. This ford was so deep and bad (the late violent floods having made great change in it) that I very narrowly escaped being thrown down in it, my horse having stumbled in the deepest part of it but after two plunges recovered himself, and neither of us received any damage.

May 28.—We stayed all this day at Morpeth, his Lordship having some business to transact there with his tenants and

neighbouring gentlemen : but had there been no affairs to detain us, we must have been obliged to have kept within doors upon account of the violent rains which fell for the most part of this day. Towards the evening there was a little respite, and I walked forth along with the worthy rector of the parish Mr. Fenwick, a person of great gravity and goodness, to see the church, which lies about a quarter of a mile up the hill to the south of the town. There are in it some remains in very fine painted glass in the windows, especially towards the east end, but I remember no monuments of curiosity or antiquity there. It is in the patronage of the Lord Carlisle, and said to be worth about 300*l.* per annum. There is a chapel of ease belonging to it at the bridge end in the town, at which there is service performed every Sunday in the afternoon. Coming back from the church to the town, we walked through the ruins of the old Castle belonging likewise to the Lord Carlisle and standing upon the hill which commands the town, on the same side of the river with the church. There is no part of it now in any order ; only some ordinary people make a shift to make up an habitation of some part of it.

May 29.—From Morpeth we set out this morning at forty eight minutes after nine and coming on the great road towards the south for about a mile, we turned off from it by the S.W. and came to my Lord's estate lying about Ogle Castle five miles from Morpeth, through a very blustering, stormy and rainy morning. This Castle has been a very considerable building, but has now nothing to signify it but its ruins, which we could not stay to take much notice of, the wind blowing so very violently that it threatened to blow what remained of it about our ears. Three miles from Ogle we pass by the Grange, a house of Mr. Horsey's, and two miles farther we come to Stamfordham (commonly called Stannerton) to a small ale house with a red lion hung to it, computed ten miles from Morpeth, in four hours and thirteen minutes.

There is in the floor of the church porch here a very ancient stone, with two figures on it, the one of a sword, the other of some implement much larger, the whole is imitated with much exactness in a draught since made of it by Mr. Sanderson, his Lordship's surveyor in these parts.

A quarter before four, we left Stannerton, the water was so much swelled in the small river Pont which runs by here, that we were obliged to quit the coach and walk over the bridge, the water coming pretty high into it. Three miles from hence we cross Severus's wall, which runs from Solway Frith in the west to Newcastle in the east. Near this wall have lately been found several stones with Roman inscriptions, which were for some time laid up at Hexham, but lately conveyed away from thence to Durham, by the dexterity of one Dr. Mangey : though in truth they most properly belonged to my Lord Oxford, several of them being found (as I am told) in his Lordship's grounds. We came over Shildon Common, and close by Norburton Hall. Hereabouts is likewise an estate of my Lord Oxford's. From this is a pleasant prospect of an enclosed country on the south of Tyne, what adds chiefly to its beauty is the woods, which in this part of the world we have hitherto traversed to the northward are a very great rarity ; and we saw no prospect of this kind for above a month past, except it be the new plantations round Dupplin House in Scotland. On the south side of the river in this prospect there is an old Castle belonging to his Grace of Somerset, near the banks of the Tyne, which we cross over, on a very good, well repaired bridge, at Corbridge, consisting of seven arches, with a date, 1674, about the

middle of it: it is three miles from Hexham. In or near this Corbridge has been lately discovered a stone with a Greek inscription, which is now somewhere laid up there, but this I did not know at the time of my being upon the spot, else I would have endeavoured to have got a sight of it. About a mile or more from this bridge we pass close by Lord Derwentwater's House called Dilston, which is not the directest and common way to Hexham, but we were obliged to use it upon account of the floods. We passed over a bridge cross the river Dilston just below the House, and thence through the old Park (now disparked) in which are standing several old large stunted oaks, but no clear growing timber, that I could see. Before we come into Hexham are several grounds of my Lord's on each side of the way. We were here in four hours and three quarters from Stannerton, being twelve computed miles, at the "Black Bull."

Sunday, May 30.—On this day we rested at Hexham and in the afternoon went to the service at the church there, where Mr. Andrews, the Mercers' Lecturer, preached to us a Restoration sermon. This lecture and another at Berwick were both founded by the Mercers' Company, and are paid by some impropriated tithes in this neighbourhood. Both of them amounted at first but to 80*l.* per annum, but now one of them amounts to as much annually, and the other is improved to 200*l.* a year.

This place made use of here at this time for the parish church is the choir of the old Cathedral, the west part of which is all demolished, and even that part which is left standing is but in a poor ruinous condition. They have already collected by brief towards the repair of it about 700*l.* but the whole return of the brief is not yet completed. The old parish church did stand towards the market-place, but they have some years since covered the whole site of it with buildings.

The allowance of the curate here (who is Sir William Blackett's) is twenty marks a year, and the surplice fees, which cannot be very considerable.

What monuments were here have suffered the same violence with the church. There is now at the bottom of a pew on the south side allotted to Thomas Fenwick, a brass plate covered over with thick matting which did belong to the Ogle family. It was fixed formerly upon an altar monument thereabouts, which was pulled to pieces about a year and half ago, by this same Thomas Fenwick who had leave so to do (as is here supposed from Sir Wm. Blackett and the Court of York). They say here, there were several pieces of silver found loose amongst the mould in this monument at its destruction; that George Yarrow, sexton, had three of them, that he sold one of them to a Scottish gentleman for five shillings sterling, that John Watson has one, Tho. Fenwick another. I have since been informed, that a much greater number were found there, and that Dr. Mangey has got possession of two of them.

May 31.—Five minutes before six this morning we left Hexham, and were at Haydon Bridge five miles from Hexham in two hours twenty minutes, at Hartwesel twelve miles from it in six hours and twenty minutes. We pass by Carvam, where again we cross the Roman wall. We leave Theringworth Castle on the right, and another on the left, within ten minutes of which we come to a poor mean place called Long Byers, where is a sort of a Red Lion hung over the door. Our design was to have gone on a mile farther before we baited, to a house (which cannot be named a house of entertainment) called Mump Hall, but having sent thither about half an hour before, we were informed there was neither corn nor hay for our horses.

From Hexham to this Long Byers are computed seventeen miles and we were coming it eight hours twenty minutes, a way which no coaches are hardly ever known to pass but those of the Judges, who are necessitated to go through it once a year; and where persons of a less share of wisdom than those learned gentlemen would hardly travel over twice without some urgent occasion. About four this afternoon we got out from this Long Byers, and by Mump Hall at the water Erldin we leave Northumberland and come into the county of Cumberland. Five miles farther we come to Denton Castle, and a mile thence are at Belton, and come on by a park of my Lord Carlisle's. We cross the River Eden at Warwick Bridge and immediately after coming over this bridge turn short to the right through part of the river, which as the water was now much risen by the continual rain seemed a very dangerous pass and made more so, as it now too began to grow duskish; however we got safe forward through several waters into the town of Carlisle at the sign of the "Bush." This I think is by far the worst day's journey that we have yet gone through, both for the length and for the badness of the ways, and where no coaches ever come, but (as I said before) the Judges once a year, and that about Midsummer, when the roads are generally in a different condition from what we found them at this time, being, besides the uncouthness of them, made as bad as they can possibly be in the height of any winter by the heavy rains, that have fallen incessantly for these four days past, which have been so stormy, windy, cold and wet as cannot well be exceeded in any season of the year, and this afternoon was so bad, that we hardly durst peep out of the coach to see what sort of a country it was that we passed through. Though it was pretty late before we got into Carlisle (having been six hours and a half, coming thither from Long Byers), and no moon up, yet we had a fine bright gleam of light all the way as we came to the town, which I suppose is what they call the Aurora Borealis, though not so bright nor so like daylight as that at St. Ringtons. Carlisle is thirteen computed miles from Long Byers.

June 1.—All this day we stopped at Carlisle, which was necessary for the refreshment of our horses, although the curiosity of the place might not have anything in it to have invited us to so long a stay. In the morning we saw the cathedral, of which there is only the choir and the cross aisle before it standing, and makes not a much better figure than the church at Hexham. So much of the west end as is left standing is converted into a parish church, by the name of St. Mary's, and is in a poor and wretched order (or rather disorder) as I ever saw any. On a large stone, at the east end of the choir, being three yards and a half by one yard and a half (on part of which stands the Litany desk), is the tombstone of Bishop Bell.

On the south side of the Cathedral, but not adjoining to the church, is the room called Bishop Smith's Library, which seems to have in it a good number of very useful books, especially in divinity.

After dinner we walked to see the Castle, which at present is a place of no great strength having only a few old iron guns left in it. There were formerly here some very good brass ones, but the Government thought it advisable to remove them in 1715. The Town wall is standing complete, I walked upon it quite round: it is computed to be about one mile in compass. The town has three gates, called the English, the Scotch, and the Irish gates. Through the Scotch you go to the North, over the river Eden, which runs at a little distance on that side, and branches out into two streams, over which are two good bridges, the one of eight, the other of three arches.

Here is a new manufacture for serges lately set up by — Gullies, Hamburg merchants, and it is likely to meet with very good success, which having wished them very heartily I take my leave of the place, and I hope my way of business will no more oblige me to visit it again, than the good town of Berwick upon Tweed.

June 2. — At seven o'clock this morning we left Carlisle, and passing by Carlton town and Common left Nipperkin on the right hand, the house of Mr. Grimes. Five miles from Carlisle we go by a large wet, moorish bottom called the Carr (which is a general name for boggy places in this country), from hence the people of the neighbourhood are supplied with turf for their firing, which they were at this time in great numbers very busily employed in cutting. There is a small shrub growing over the greatest part of it, which they call soft salallows, and a small fowl of a bluish sort of feather are perpetually hovering about it. They are about the size of an ordinary pigeon, or rather a degree less, and go by the name of the Carr swallows. Six miles from Carlisle we come through Low Hesketh and further on the right hand of the road we were showed a large thorn tree, remarkable for having an annual court held under it by the Chamberlain of Carlisle, in which affairs relating to the Forest of Inglewood are cognizable. This Forest which is about twenty miles in length and ten wide, lies chiefly on the right hand of our road, which has the appearance of being a very fertile country, and is very much enclosed. All along the sides of the way where we passed is a sort of a continued common, which affords very good pasture for sheep. About four miles before we come at Penrith we have all the way in our view a small kind of beacon lately rebuilt upon a hill above the town. It is composed of a stone of a ruddy colour, which this country affords in good plenty, and if what stood anciently upon that hill was of the same kind of material, it may possibly have given occasion to the Cumbrians who possessed these parts to call the town by the name Pen-rhydd, which in British signifies a ruddy coloured top, or summit. This is computed sixteen miles, and we came it in five hours and twenty-five minutes.

Before dinner we walked to see the new church here, which is a very handsome one, lately erected by contributions. The pillars which on the inside support the roof and galleries are in number ten, and are about five feet and a half high, each of them being hewed out of one entire stone. On the inside of the south wall are some ancient monumental stones stuck there in order for their preservation by the worthy rector, Dr. Todd, whom I mentioned before as having taken great pains in compiling an account of the antiquities of this country, which we had the favour of perusing at his house; it seems all ready for publication, and to want only a proper encouragement. Whenever this work appears it will doubtless give a full account of these old stones on the inside of the church, as well as of those strange ones that are in the churchyard, which do not want their fabulous embellishments from the inhabitants.

The inscription giving an account of the devastation of the plague in these parts is on the north wall of the church at Penrith, as you go out at the east door to the minister's house: "*Ex gravi peste, quæ regionibus hisce incubuit obierunt; apud, Penrith, 2,260; Kendal, 2,500; Richmond, 2,200; Carlisle, 1,196. Posterì, avortite vos, et vivite. Ezek. xviii. 32.*"

We departed from Penrith at four, but I should before I go make honourable mention of the goodness of the bread it afforded us, which

is the best by far of any I yet met with in the north, and I believe is as good as any place in England produces. This the inhabitants are sensible of and value themselves upon it accordingly. At a small distance from the town we cross the river Eden over a bridge where we leave Cumberland and enter into Westmorland. Betwixt this bridge and that over the river Eamont, on the right hand of our road, is a round flat, somewhat like a large cockpit, with a mound cast up round it, vulgarly called King Arthur's Table, at which the neighbourhood are all well satisfied that both he and his Knights were wont to regale themselves. A little farther we leave Brome-hall [Brougham?] Castle, the Lord Thanet's, on the left. About a quarter of a mile from this Castle and three miles from Penrith close by our road side stands a very handsome octagon column, with a cubical square on the top of it, having a dial on each of the four sides, and in the middle of one of them is a brass plate of fourteen inches by twelve, with an inscription upon it. This is called the Lady's Pillar, and the inscription gives the reason of its name:—

“This pillar was erected anno 1656 by the Right Honble. Ann Countess Dowager of Pembroke &c. daughter and sole (*sic*) of the Rt. Honble. George, Earl of Cumberland &c. for a memorial of her last parting in this place with her good and pious mother, the Rt. Honble. Margaret Countess Dowager of Cumberland, the second of April 1616 in memory whereof she also left an annuity of four pounds to be distributed to the Poor within this Parish of Brougham every second day of April for ever upon the stone table here hard by.”

Laus Deo.

This pillar is about 15 feet high and on the side of the square opposite to that with the inscription, are the arms of Clifford &c. with a date underneath of 1654. Just by it stands the stone table mentioned in the inscription, railed in.

From Penrith to Appleby are ten computed miles, betwixt these two places we crossed four rivers, over four bridges, the Eden, Lowther, Troutbeck and ——— in four hours and twenty minutes.

June 3.—Before we left Appleby this morning we walked up by a gentle ascent of about a furlong, to see the Castle, now belonging to the Earl of Thanet and is in a very habitable condition having been repaired in the year 1686, as appears by such a date on the outside of it. In the Hall is a notable picture representing George Earl of Cumberland, together with several members of his family, an account of each person being wrote over the picture which represents him.

In one of the lower rooms we were showed the armour worn by this Earl, which are of very curious workmanship, and there preserved by themselves in a strong box. We had likewise the favour of seeing three large folio MSS. giving a very particular account and history of the family, and drawn up from authentic papers by the direction of Ann, Countess of Pembroke, &c., whose own life is likewise at the end of one of the volumes, and a great deal of it is of her own handwriting.

After having gone forth into another end of the castle which goes by the name of the Baron's Tower, where is the wedding bed of this Lady, being all of curious needlework, as is the whole furniture belonging to that apartment where the Judges used to be reposed in when they came to this place. We left Appleby at a quarter past eight, and in two hours and a half came to a small town called Brough, about six miles, to the posthouse there, kept by one Lamb, which I mention more particularly upon account of the comfortable refreshment we met with

there both of good claret and good eatables, which came more opportunely as being in some measure necessary to raise our courage for conquering the uncouth and difficult passage we were presently to enter upon over Stanemoor: in order to which we left Brough at a quarter after twelve, and had not gone above half a mile before we had a specimen of the sweet road we were to clamber through, going up from a small rivulet, a pretty sharp ascent which is full of loose, ragged stones, and at the same time has its share of a stiff sticking clay; which, however is not quite so awkward for those on horseback as it is for a coach, which I thought could hardly have been able to get over this beginning without some loss either to the poor beasts or the tackle; but, however, by the good care and management of those servants whose business it was, all was safely surmounted, without any other detriment but what might have happened to the worthy person who chose to inhabit the coach at this time, who doubtless suffered no small frights and terrors of mind, such as may naturally be supposed to have some effect upon the body.

On the right of us we leave Stanemoor Dale and many enclosures upon it with stone walls amongst which are several meadows, which produce more and better grass than one would have expected from the sterility and stoniness of the ground, which is so near them. Four miles from Brough we pass by Palliott, a tolerable public house, near which is a natural cascade, which runs down about thirty or more steps, and look very nearly as regular as if they had been worked out by the hand of an architect. About a mile further we ascend a very steep rocky hill, upon the top of which ascent is a poor ruin of loose stones, which have the name of the Maiden Castle. And sure if any virgins were ever kept up here, I daresay their virtue might be very secure from any attack from any human ravisher, nay for ought I know, even Jove himself would hardly have thought it worth his while to have attempted his Danae had she been included in a tower on this dreary and cold situation, though if ever he came down here, upon casting one's eyes around one would think, it was most probably in a shower of stones.

From hence we came on a little farther to Keycross, which I suppose has its name from a cross, which might probably in former days have stood hereabouts, but of which there are no tokens now remaining, and as this is the great road to the western parts of Scotland, it may not improbably have been some time or other demolished by the piety of the inhabitants of those parts, whose righteous souls were offended at such a superstitious erection in their sojourning to and from the South. At this Rye-cross we leave Westmorland and come into Yorkshire. Here are several stones erected, along the highway, as I suppose, for the direction of travellers to keep the safest road, where those are put up.

All this way was plainly a Roman road, there being several manifest traces of it as we came along; and our direct way was to have continued on upon it to Bowes, but were advised to turn off from it with the coach, through an inn yard called the Spittle house, on the right, whence we were conducted by the man of the house through some closes, and here we had deep sloughs and bogs to wade through, and to make some recompense for our hereby avoiding rocks and stones on the other way, we go for some way at the bottom by a water called Greatsea, which though the name be said to signify a great water, yet is but a small rivulet; but has upon it one of the strongest and most lasting bridges, which perhaps can anywhere be boasted of. It is about two miles before we come to Bowes, and called by some Thrush Bridge and by others more properly God's Bridge. The meaning of the

first name I could not learn, but that of the other is not difficult to be guessed at, when one sees the brigg, which consists of a large, hard rock through which the water has found a passage, which, for ought anybody now knows, may have been as ancient as the General Deluge. The length of this passage of the water through the rock or, if you please, the facing of the arch is at least fifty-four feet. The pass is not very large, so as to let any considerable body of water through, but however they aver here with great confidence that a man and a horse were at some certain time driven quite through by the force of the flood; and what is still more remarkable, they affirm with equal assurance that neither the rider nor his beast received any damage, and the story has this to recommend its credibility, that any traveller that views the place will readily own that both parts of it are equally probable.

At Bowes, which is twelve miles from Brough, we take our leave of Stainmoor, in passing of which we had not only the inconvenience of the road, but likewise the inclemency of the heavens to bear through, for towards the latter part of the day we had a cold raw rain that beat upon us, and we can by good experience bear some testimony to the truth of a common saying they have in this country, that if there be rain under heaven, you have it on Stainmoor. And to take my leave compendiously of it, it must be confessed that it can most undoubtedly produce some specimen of all the bad ways that England can afford, whether they consist of bogs, loose stones, firm rock, or precipices, &c., in short this may be said of this pass over Stainmoor which I have heard mentioned of some country in the north, that if you speak anything of it but what is well, you cannot describe it amiss.

At Bowes is a Castle, which belongs to one Mr. Pullein, and at this town it is that we come again on the Roman way, upon which we go on for about two miles, and then turn off from it to the left, through some enclosures over a good bridge cross the Tees into Barnard Castle without any harm either to men or horses, having gone through a hazardous day's journey of about twenty-two miles, and being in motion about nine hours and a quarter.

June 4.—This morning after being supplied with some of the curious commodities this place has gained a name for, a few Barnard Castle bridles, we left this town and crossed the river back again over the same bridge where we entered, and after proceeding for about two miles and a half came again upon the old Roman way, and left Brigmore, an estate belonging to Lord Barrymore, on our right over Gatherley Moor, thence on through Gilling, leaving Aske Hall, the Lord Wharton's, to the right, and Sedbury, Lord Darcy's, to the left. We set out from Barnard Castle half after nine and in six hours, twenty minutes, came to a good inn at Richmond at the "King's Head," kept by one Haslam. The way we were obliged to come with the coach is according to the Yorkshire manner of computation about fourteen miles. Being not to go any farther this day we had time to walk a little about the town, and accordingly went forth after dinner by a large open market place to the old Castle, which stands upon a very steep ascent towards the river Swale which washes the bottom of the rocky ground it stands upon. On this side of it which fronts the river, just by the walk that leads under the Castle wall, were some coins lately discovered by a labourer that was taking up some stones near the surface of the ground.

There is no part of this Castle now inhabited, but there are sufficient ruins to bear testimony of its former glory both as to strength and magnificence. The situation is very pleasant, as is indeed that of the whole town, being surrounded by a fertile as well as delightful country, and having the Swale running just by on the south and east part of it. In this part of the county it is that the best horses are said to be bred, and everybody here is born a jockey, and any stranger may be soon furnished with all the cant and trick belonging to this way of trading by a little conversation and expense in dealing with these artists, who seem to be the most professed cheats in the world, in their calling, and yet are never to be deemed such, by a peculiar kind of courtesy of England.

From the Castle ruin we walked down towards the Swale, and so on to the church and school, in neither of which do I remember anything remarkable, except it be in the latter, if it may be accounted worth notice that the master of it is much troubled with a distemper called the "Hipp," which I always understood to be a malady to be prevented or most certainly carried off by the brawlings of school boys, or those of an Ecclesiastical wife, both which it seems this unfortunate man has not found sufficient to expel it. It was now the dusk of the evening, when we returned to our inn, towards the back part of which stands an old tower, which made so pretty an appearance at a distance, that it invited us to a nearer visit; it formerly had a church adjoining to it (I think it was called St. Michael's), which now lies all in ruins, and has only left this tower standing as some token of what itself might formerly have been, and if it was in all respects answerable to this relic, it must have been a very handsome and elegant piece of Gothic structure; and I think it a thousand pities that some kind hand from the neighbourhood should not stretch forth its munificence to prevent it from falling down into level ruins with its mother church, and it seems to have been erected with such strength as well as skill and art, that a very moderate expense laid out in time would have been very effectual for its preservation.

June 5.—At five minutes after nine this morning we parted from Richmond, and for some way travelled very near the banks of the Swale, and it being market day at Richmond, and meeting many people on their way thither, we were confirmed in the truth of the report of this part of the country's producing notable horses of all kinds, for we saw none of the most ordinary people but what seemed to be better mounted than ordinary. We pass over Gillingbeckbrigg, Brompton Swale, and having gone about three miles we got to the other side of the Swale, over Catterick bridge, which consists of five good arches, and one mile further we arrive at Catterick town. About five miles from Richmond we turn a little out of our direct road to have a view of Hornby Castle, the seat of the Lord Holderness, which seems to be placed on a very agreeable situation, were there but a river within the prospect from it, which is a very extensive one towards the south, and the Hambleton Hills.

Within the house on the top of the great staircase are several pictures of some of the Kings of England, which I take this general note of, upon the account of my friend Mr. Vertue, who is very diligent in his researches after them in order to complete a series of English monarchs of his own engraving, after the best informations he can procure.

Five miles from Hornby we come to Snape, a good old house belonging to his Honour Cecill, in which are several good pictures, and some fine paintings by the hands of Signor Verrio, which are now much

damaged, and some in a manner quite spoiled by the dampness of the air, the ravage of time or, which is at least equal to both, the negligence of men.

One mile from Snape we pass through a village called Wilde (Well?), one mile further we come to Tanfield and Tanfield bridge, which is raised upon three noble arches, over which we cross the river Ure. Three miles from Snape we come to North Stainley and so directly forward to Ripon, by a rising ground, from whence we have a distant view of York Minster. All this day we pass through a very rich and enclosed country and in seven hours and twenty-five minutes get into the "Unicorn" at the market place at Ripon, which by northern computation is sixteen miles from the pleasant town of Richmond.

June 6.—After having attended Divine service at the church this morning, we had a little leisure to take a short view of the inside of it, which is kept in pretty good order and repair, but I do not remember any monuments of any notable curiosity in it, but my friend Mr. John Barber, the schoolmaster there, mentioned two or three to us afterwards, which one would have looked upon had he known it at the time of our being upon the spot. The most whimsical and odd is that upon the cook of Newby, which he says is in the churchyard, and he sent a copy of it after us—

Here lyeth
John James the old cook of Newby
A faithfull servant to his master
And an upright downright honest man

1707

Banes among stanes
Do lye you still
Whilk the saul wanders
E'en where God will,

But what is showed in this church as the most remarkable curiosity is a kind of vault or dark chamber, which upon opening a door which shuts horizontally with the pavement you descend into by steps. The entrance is on one side of the great middle aisles, near one of the pillars. This subterraneous recess, which is somewhat of a square form and of a small content goes by the name of Wilfrid's Needle: but the reason of its name, and the use that was made of it, I had no satisfactory account of. They tell you some fabulous stories of some ladies of suspected virtue being immured within this secret dwelling, and were to give a testimony of their inviolated chastity by squeezing themselves through a hole that leads through one side of this room into a passage that is even with it, and their passing through this eye might be called perhaps their threading of the needle. But if this hole in the wall were originally as large as it is, at this time, it were no great wonder if even a modern virgin crept with safety through, without endangering her hooped petticoat, or giving suspicion of her virtue concealed beneath it. But whether it were a vault for burying, or as some think for hearing confessions, or this trial of chasity, or what other general purpose it may have been continued for, I am not able to determine; I am sure the common tradition is the most improbable, and it seems to be adapted more for the dwelling of the dead, than of the living.

This Church has belonging to it a Dean, and six prebendaries each of whom has twenty-five pounds per annum, the Sub-dean has fifty

pounds. If the Dean be constantly resident it is worth to him two hundred pounds, if not, it dwindles to eighty pounds per annum.

There is a school and a good house belonging to the master of it just by, founded by Queen Mary for teaching the children of the townsmen: the revenue that supports it is forty pounds per annum, which is chiefly made up of some houses in the town, the rents of which are very precariously paid, insomuch that the master tells us he is obliged to keep a bailiff in constant employ for the levying of them.

There is a fine park of Mr. Aislaby's within two miles of this town, which having heard great commendations of, we were tempted to make use of this afternoon to visit it, otherwise our being obliged to proceed forward on our journey the next morning would have deprived us of this satisfaction, as well as of seeing the ruins of Fountains Abbey just by it, both which may well command the attendance of any sojourner this way. We go quite through the park and then turn to the left to come down to the Vale or Dene where this religious building is situated, and is the most complete ruin I have anywhere viewed, if that ruin may with any propriety be called complete which remains as yet in the least rubbish or confusion of any of those houses which have been at all demolished. The walls both of the church, the dormitory and other offices are pretty entirely standing; as is also the great square tower, which has some inscriptions embossed on the stone on each side of it; that fronting the south, which we could see from the body of the church, was to the best of my remembrance: *Soli Deo Honor et Gloria in Secula Seculorum. Amen!*

In the body of the church are several fine large aspen trees growing, one of them was at least two foot diameter. The old mill that belonged to the Society is still standing, and in so good order that it performs its function to this day for the benefit of the Laity as well as it ever did for the Religious. The quarry which supplied stone for the erection of this edifice is close adjoining to it, and out of this rock which composes one side of the Vale (and for ought I know the other side of it may be of the same composition) arise several copious springs, which in all likelihood gave it the name of Fountains Abbey, and perhaps this great plenty of fine water might not only contribute to the giving it a name, but might likewise have given occasion for fixing upon the situation, as springs and wells amongst those devotees were looked upon as no less sacred than they were amongst superstitious pagans, their *aqua* and *sacra* being to be translated not so properly into their "Holy Water," as the "Holy Wells." But as they were fond of water, they had here not only the benefits of what flowed from these springs in good profusion, but likewise of the river Skell which washes the foundations of these buildings. This Skell rises from a loch or lake called the Dane some miles on the wild country to the west of it, and when the wind blows from that point, the overflowing of the lake by that means occasions very great floods in this little river, even though it should not be assisted by any rains from above: and however wise and happy these recluses might have thought themselves in fixing their habitation amongst this watery element, yet if they had the tradition amongst them, which is amongst the present neighbours of the place, they had no such occasion to be so very fond of it, for this Dane and this Skell are one day or other to complete its demolition, if we are to give any credit to these two prophetic lines, which are in the mouths of the dwellers hereabouts, that

The Dane and Skell
Schall Fountains fell.

But a gentleman (Mr. Massenger) who lives in a very good house within a bow's shot before we come at the Abbey, and in equal danger to undergo the same fate with it, upon an inundation, does not seem to be under any apprehensions from this prediction, but lives there with great tranquillity and quiet, it being a situation so concealed, so private and retired from common observation, as the greatest solitudinarian can wish for, and may here have his belly full of. Though the person that built this house seems to have chosen the situation more for its sanctity than retirement, and to have had a particular regard to the sacredness of the Fountains round him, and has therefore set up this writing at the entrance towards his house,—*Fontes benedicite Domino*. That posterity might not be left ignorant who was concerned in founding this pile, there is an ingenious device carved aloft in the stone over the western gate of the church, representing a thrush and a tun, by which the beholder is to understand, that it is owing to the munificence of Bishop Thurston, or rather, if we are to be guided to the orthography of the name by this rebus, we are to call him Thrushtun.

Taking our leave of these fair ruins we return again into the Park by the same way we came, and were conducted to that vale in it where the Skell runs through the Park, and where there is a handsome canal just finished, through which the whole river takes its course, this canal is in length 1,260 feet; and the river falls into it in one leap of water, five feet perpendicular, and goes out again with a cascade of steps, the perpendicular height of which is thirteen feet. There are handsome grass and gravel walks on the side of it, which upon any overflowing of the river (to which it is very subject) must suffer much detriment: and I have been informed since I left this place, that the violent rains which fell this day and the next have had that effect, insomuch that the new works about this canal have suffered very considerable damage, and indeed whatever works this gentleman will think proper to erect in this bottom, so very liable to sudden and violent floods, he will in all probability have much more reason to apprehend that destruction to them, which the before mentioned prophecy threatens, than his neighbours at Fountains Abbey, the stream having much more force and power here than it can have there, as it seems he has already in parts unfortunately experienced. From this Park which is very delightful both for its variety of ground, turf, and plantation, we returned to Ripon having been pretty sufficiently soaked with rain for our curiosity.

There was another short visit which the rain prevented us from making this evening, to a large bank or hill artificially thrown up near the town, which we are told has a fair outside covered with grass but is somewhat of the nature of those whited sepulchres mentioned in holy writ, being inwardly filled with human bones; which are enclosed by a surface of earth of the thickness of feet, but they give no account when or how these fragments of mortality came to be thus compiled.

June 7.—At a quarter past eight this morning we left Ripon, passing forward directly from our inn through the market-place, which I ought not to be in the neighbourhood of so long and to leave without taking notice that it is a very large open square area, with an Obelisk erected in the centre of it by their neighbour Mr. Aislaby, about which if you make any enquiry the good men and wives of Ripon will be sure to remark to you, that on the very last stone that was laid on the top of this Obelisk a child was begotten, which it seems is still surviving, and if the stage it is to act upon in life shall prove as high as the place of its

generation, we may expect a very considerable appearance from it. But the Ripon men are not singular in observing and producing curiosities of this nature, for at Edinburgh Castle we were showed a gun, and at another place a hollow tree, in which cavities the like feats had been performed with equal success.

Just as we came out of the town of Ripon we were to pass over the furious little river, the Skell : and we found the reports of its violent and sudden inundations in some degree verified, so that we durst not venture to go through in the coach, but left that to itself and its directors, and walked over a good stone bridge which was not made large enough for any carriages : however all got through very safe, and we nicked the time very happily, for had we been but a few minutes later, it would have been utterly impossible to have passed it at all for that day.

In about three hours and a half we were at Knaresborough, within one mile of which Grinning (Grimbald) Bridge over the river Nidd through Ribston, leaving Ribston Hall, a good house of Sir Edward Gooderick's at a little distance on the left. Hence by the school-house, North-Deighton, and Kirk-Deighton into Wetherby, being six hours from Ripon and computed twelve miles, through floods upon the ground, and very heavy rains overhead, which made it a very uncomfortable stage this morning, even for those who were in some measure protected against these inconveniences by the shelter of a coach : though by what little views we could have of it, the country seemed otherwise capable of affording no unpleasant entertainment for a traveller, but as matters stood at present the most agreeable was that we could meet within doors, where those who had borne the great inclemency of the heavens by a vigilant and cheerful attendance through it, had no small amends and encouragement by the humane care and kindness shewed towards them by a truly noble and indulgent master.

It was almost five in the afternoon before we left Wetherby, being to come to Leeds this night which is ten miles, and we were in motion to it five hours and a quarter having made a short stay of three quarters of an hour at Bramham, a new house of the Lord Bingley's, who perhaps may think it no great compliment to the architecture of it, to say that it makes a better appearance on the outside than that of his Lordship's in Cavendish Square. The gardens our time would not permit us to visit seem to consist chiefly of walks through woods and late plantations and would doubtless have afforded us great entertainment, had the coming on of the night allowed us to have gone over them, though I must confess my want of taste for those things would not permit me to take any high delight in that specimen of a cascade, which was shown us facing the balcony towards the garden, and which others may be fond of, though it seemed in my eye to be no other than a kind of stone ladder lying almost horizontally upon the ground with great penury of water distilling over the steps of it, though there did not want great profusion of this element in most other places at this season of great rains.

The soil hereabouts, and for the most part of our road this afternoon, is sandy, till we came within about a mile of Leeds, where we had a very convincing proof of the difference of the soil, by the coach having narrowly escaped being stuck in the clay near a place called Blackhill ; however we got with great safety into the town through a deep water on that part of the town where we entered, which had it not been for the floods would scarce have been sufficient to have washed the legs of the horses.

Leeds is situated upon the River Aire which we passed over in our journey northward at Ferrybridge, and is navigated up hither, which is no small advantage to the great trade it carries on in the woollen and cloth manufacture; and the next morning being their market day we had an opportunity of seeing the manner of dealing betwixt the clothiers and the merchants, which we were the more ready to attend having never before observed the like method of marketing.

June 8.—Their market begins about six o'clock in the morning, though by the unfavourableness of the weather it happened this day to be somewhat later, it is signified by the ringing of a small bell, at the ceasing of which all the clothiers immediately throw open their commodities, which are wrapped up in an ordinary cloth, and expose them to view. Before this notice they all stand in long rows with their several packs of goods covered up before them, on one side of the great street, and much resemble the disposition of spectators in a theatre, only their stations are more upon a level, leaving room for the buyers to pass up and down betwixt the several rows of the sellers. What is very remarkable in this assembly is, the great secrecy and stillness with which every thing is transacted, their bargains being all concluded in a kind of whisper betwixt the parties, so that though they stand so close together, yet the very next man shall hardly discern what is murmured forth betwixt his neighbours. It was judged that this morning there might be concerned in this concourse about two thousand people, who might have dealings amongst them for above thirty thousand pounds, all concluded in about the space of half an hour, and yet all carried on with such hush and silence, as if they had all been bred up in the school of Pythagoras. This they told us happened to be but a very small market, many of the neighbouring traders having been prevented from coming in by the floods and boisterousness of the weather; at other times they have dealings here in the same space of time and with the same tranquillity for fifty or sixty thousand pounds in a morning. Happy would it be for the family of the "Morose's" could they procure wives educated under this discipline. When the market breaks up, the seller carries home to the merchant's house what goods they had bargained for, where he has immediately his money numbered down, only an eighth part of the price is kept back by the buyer as a kind of security or caution, in case there should prove any difference in the goodness or quantity of what was purchased; in which case a satisfactory reparation is to be made; for I do not find that the Yorkshire Clothiers have as yet brought their traffic upon the same footing with the Yorkshire Jockeys; however it is to be presumed that even these traders do not degenerate from that acuteness in their calling, in which their countrymen are generally thought to be in no wise deficient; but we should have had no cause to lament, had we had as little trial and experience of the Jockeyings as we had of the clothing craft. There is one thing belonging to it which I could wish we had seen, though perhaps we should have had no great pleasure in partaking of the entertainment, and that is those places of rendezvous where these meaner sort of traders resort for their refreshment, after the business of the morning is over. These they call the Bridge End Club, I suppose, from the first institution of it at a quarter of the town near the bridge, though it be not now confined to that place, nor to one house. This regale is composed of an ordinary broth well stuffed with bread, but if the broth which I did not see be as ordinary in its kind as the bread is of which I saw a specimen, they are both very extraordinary, and by far the meanest

that ever occurred to me, and I have had opportunities of seeing very mean fare of both kinds. To wash down this repast they have a mug of drink allowed them, for all which they pay, as well as I can remember, one penny per head, which however trifling it may appear for so many ingredients, yet as far as I can conjecture is a very dear bargain.

This manufacture must of course make the town and parish very populous. The parish church, which we had time just to walk into, is a very capacious one, yet hardly large enough to contain the twentieth part of the parishioners, but this is pretty well made up by the addition of nine chapels of ease to it, and what is much to be wondered at, in a place inhabited by such a numerous and low multitude, there are but two meeting houses in it for Dissenters, which must doubtless be owing to the blessing of God upon the pious labours and prudence of those worthy clergymen, who have so successfully laid out their pains in cultivating this vineyard.

The mother church which, I am told, is a vicarage, affords the incumbent four hundred pounds per annum, which as I am informed arises from the offering of two pence from each communicant, which (if our information be just) makes the number of them to be very near five times as many as those of Newcastle.

I must not forget our visit to Mr. Thoresby before we left the town, an antiquary of some name amongst those virtuosi, but the poor man was now so old, so decayed, infirm and decrepid, and indeed in a manner so superannuated, that he was the only piece of antiquity in the collection that one could have been contented not to have seen; but yet even this sight must convey an instruction superior to any thing he could show, to those who must reflect upon themselves as necessarily subjected to the same, or more grievous calamities.

What seemed most valuable in his collection of rarities was that of his coins, which are very numerous, and consequently must be presumed to have some pieces of value, as well as others that may not deserve much consideration.

Though the continual rain made it not very inviting either to traverse the streets of the town, or to proceed forwards on our journey, yet after having spent about two hours up and down the town, we set forward for Wakefield about a quarter before ten; it is about six miles distant from Leeds and according to the rate of about two miles an hour (which considering all circumstances of the road, the measure and the weather is no mean progress) we came thither to the "White Bear" in three hours. This is the house where the unfortunate scene was transacted of the death of Mr. Savile of Methley and his companion some few years ago. It was occasioned by that young gentleman's running hastily in the dark to the yard and so tumbling into the well, which is just by the back door, and whose mouth was then unguarded and uncovered, but is since enclosed and better fenced against any such future accidents at the expense of the life of this poor gentleman, and his companion, who upon perceiving his friend to have fallen in, immediately followed down by the rope, in hopes to have rescued him but never returned again, till both the dead corpses were taken up. It is said they both had been drinking too freely, if so, they paid very dearly for their excess, and we can only apply the example in the same view, as that of those upon whom the Tower of Siloam fell.

Before dinner we walked to see the church which is not far from the inn, it is a very spacious one and makes a very handsome show both on the outside and within. In the prospect of it from without, the chief beauty is the spire and tower; they have likewise begun to cleanse and improve all the walls of it, and propose to go on and finish it with all convenient expedition. The inside is already furnished out and filled up with pews and galleries, which altogether must hold a very considerable congregation all seated. The case of the organ and the pulpit are a very elegant and complete piece of workmanship, which are the more to be taken notice of, as being the performance of a country artist; his name is Thornton, and I think he is still living somewhere in this neighbourhood.

I do not remember whether there be any chapels of ease or meeting houses here, but I presume it cannot be without some of both kinds, this place being exceeding populous upon account of the great number of hands it employs in the woollen manufacture, which differs somewhat from that which is carried on at Leeds, though I do not recollect the particular distinction.

The town seems for the generality very well built, it having several good brick houses in the streets where we passed, which make no indifferent appearance. Here is also a very good school, which has of late years been much cried up in our neighbour University, but with what justice I do not know. This is certain, that it has produced three contemporaries in this age, all natives of this town, men famous in their generation. The first that is to be named is that great physician Dr. Radcliffe; in the next place follows the learned Dr. Potter, the present bishop of Oxford, and after these his countrymen, let appear with proper reverence and at due distance in the third place the present Master of Trinity, who perhaps may be better pleased if I call him forth with a little more pedantry, "*Te Bentlæ roco; quamvis non passibus æquis, Proximus is, longo sed proximus intervallo.*" The father of the first was keeper of the House of Correction, the Bishop's father is a mercer in the town and still alive, but I do not remember any notice of the father of the last mentioned.

At half hour past four this afternoon we left Wakefield and having a stage of about eight miles to Black Barnsley we arrived thither in four hours and twenty minutes. At our coming out of Wakefield we cross the river Calder, over a good strong bridge, on the middle of which on our left hand stands an old chapel, said to have been built by Edward the fourth, or his brother the Earl of [Rutland] in which the soul of his father, and of those who fell with him in a battle with Queen [Margaret], somewhere in this neighbourhood, were to be prayed for (but Leland mentions it as a foundation of the townsmen's, and dedicated to the Virgin); the case of it, and the covering is still standing and entire; but I am afraid not likely to be reduced to any use for devotion, it being at present only a repository to store up rape seed in.

From this bridge we come forward one mile to Milnthorpe, this and another bring us through the worst road that can possibly be passed by any coach, to a large reservoir of water on the left called New Miller's dam, near which is a good house of Mr. Beaver's lately raised, as well as the estate belonging to it, by the dyeing trade. Coming forward near Woolley, the seat of his Honour Wentworth, and a park of Mr. Neville's, and through a small rock of coal which appears openly in the high way, we got safe to Black Barnsley in the dusk of the evening.

June 9.—From hence we set forward pretty early the next morning, a little after eight, having not time to visit any part of the town, and seeing nothing worth noticing, except it be the unusual concourse of the populace, that attended both at our coming into the town and at our leaving it, the particular reason of which assembling more here than at any other place I do not yet understand.

In five miles journey from this Black Barnsley, we come to Wombwell, and one more to Brampton Bierlow, and in two miles more by Coftoodhaugh, a very considerable colliery belonging to his Honour Wentworth, a mile further to Greasborough, and another brings us to Rotherham, where we passed near a stately church, which with its spire and tower made a very tempting invitation to be visited by Pilgrims, but our stage being fixed for Sheffield would not permit us to make any stop here. Near the town we pass the river Don by a good bridge, with a chapel on the left towards the middle of it much resembling that on the bridge near Wakefield in every thing but the present use that is made of it, for this instead of being a storehouse for rape, is converted by the piety of the proprietors into an almshouse for the comfortable entertainment of poor widows. The Rother, which one would imagine to be the superior stream, as giving name to the town, falls just by into the Don, and thence forwards partakes of that name. After crossing the Don twice more, the first I think over Washford, and the next over Lady Bridge, we get into the town of Sheffield, which according to the generous way of computation we met with in this country, is accounted no more than fourteen miles, and with the best expedition we could make took us up no more than seven hours and a quarter.

It was once thought we might have been able to have proceeded on to Welbeck this afternoon, but the experience of the next day convinced us how advisable it was to take up our quarters here for this night, and at the same time to look a little about this place, which has obtained no small name for its trading (as they call it very justly) in hardware.

This town is situated on a large hill with the river Don running in the plain at the bottom, from which to the highest part of the town (which I take to be towards that part whereabouts the old church stands) is a very considerable ascent, though not a very steep one. The trade of the town consisting chiefly in Smithery makes the streets more liable to be soiled and dirtied than a more cleanly occupation would do, though I cannot say that upon our passing through them, there appeared anything more offensive than is to be met with in other towns that employ such great numbers of inhabitants in any trade and manufacture. But here indeed they have a very great advantage for cleansing of their streets and carrying off any nuisances thrown into them; for about the very summit of the hill the town is built upon, is a very great reservoir of water, fed by springs rising hereabouts, and from the name of the person who I supposed reduced it to the present condition it is in, called Parker's Pool. This water they let out at convenient sluices in a very copious stream which runs with some rapidity down the streets, whenever this is done, which is at least once a week, the several inhabitants are to take the opportunity of sweeping into it all their uncleanly encumbrances, which are immediately conveyed away by this flood, and poured along with it into the neighbouring river. As the pool never wants a proper quantity of water for this use even in the driest

seasons, they doubtless with great justice attribute to it being very instrumental in preserving the health of the place, which few towns so populous enjoy with such constancy as they do here, and perhaps the smoke of coals consumed here in great quantities, and esteemed generally not unwholesome, may contribute its share towards producing the same good effect. But besides this general rendezvous of them in Parker's Pool, there are several other springs which flow forth from this hill, and supply the inhabitants with very good water for the several uses of their family; and this makes the situation which is upon a very rising ground encompassed with higher mountains at a distance both commodious and delightful, but what has chiefly induced the smiths and cutlers to set up their forges together on this smaller Etna, I take to be, not only the plenty of water it affords, but also the great abundance that all the country hereabouts supplies of such materials as are at least as necessary for the support of these volcanoes, there being no small store of iron stone, coals and grind stone, to be met with throughout all this neighbourhood. But we were showed two places at a distance, in the opening betwixt which they have a tradition, that there lies concealed a much more valuable metal, than any they have as yet been able to find or hammer out of the neighbouring caverns of the earth. The names of them are Templebrough and Winkebank and they repeat to you a prophetic piece of poetry, that

Betwixt Winkebank and Templebrough
Is silver enough
To buy England through and through.

But I do not understand, that any undertakings have as yet been hereby encouraged to sink in search of any such treasure, and I believe they will find it to turn to much better account to rest satisfied with that silver to which they convert their coal and their iron mines.

On the river Sheaf which runs on one side of the town to meet the Don are most of their wheels and troughs built (as they call those places where their grindstones are), which like common mill wheels, turn about those grindstones with a very violent swiftness and rapidity; insomuch that they sometimes fly to pieces, and prove fatal to those poor creatures that are employed about them; that which we saw was upon the common, and was a small hut with three of these grinding stones in it. These are very beneficial to the proprietors of them, for the cutlers give fourteen or fifteen shillings a day for the use of each of them, as often as their occasions require.

At the lower end of this common is the river Sheaf, which gives name to the town, and though no large stream, yet makes sufficient amends by its being pretty constant; this common or moor has been of late years much enclosed, but I do not understand what those consequences which the kingdom in general is to apprehend from such an alteration in the community of this moor, whatever the private neighbours may suffer by it, but they threaten us with this prediction upon such a change (for it seems they deal here much in prophetic rhymes)

When Sheffield moor is ploughed and sown,
Then little England look to thine own.

But it is to be hoped, that the period for the making use of this admonition has been sometime past and gone, since it is directed to little England and not to Great Britain.

From hence we walk back to the town by the new church they have lately erected, the case of which is finished, but the conveniences of the inside scarce begun; it must without doubt be very much wanted in a place so very populous, and where there is at present but one church, which though a very capacious one cannot be supposed to be able to contain above a fourth or fifth part of the inhabitants; so that the number of meeting houses (which are two) are double of what they have as yet in any order for the reception of a congregation of the Church of England. But there is an Hospital just by on the other side of the Sheaf built by the Earl of Shrewsbury in 1675, the chapel belonging to which though but a small one is however made capable of holding a considerable congregation, which in their present state is a considerable advantage to the reformed inhabitants of the town. I say reformed in distinction to the Roman Catholics and Nonconformists, of both kinds of which dissenters from the established church there are some numbers in this neighbourhood, the one sort occasioned by the great dependence that must be hereabouts on the Duke of Norfolk, who has great command and revenues here, and the other may in some measure be owing to their present want of church room.

There has been a great part of the town, which was made up chiefly of wooden houses, rebuilt within these few years, and now makes no mean figure in brick particularly towards the north side of it, where there are abundance of new erections upon new foundations by which the town has lately been considerably enlarged, and if the Corporation of Cutlers here can but gain the point they have been for some time endeavouring at, of making the river Don navigable thus far there is no question but a few more years will create no small addition to the wealth, the ornament, and the buildings of the town of Sheffield, and so I bid them farewell as seeming an industrious and honest people in all respects very heartily, in their own dialect,

Wishing Prosperation
To the Corporation.

June 10.—A few minutes before nine this morning we came on from Sheffield towards Welbeck, nor was I then more impatient to arrive thither for some sweet repose after our journeyings than I am now to make an end of them there with my pen.

We came out by the hospital I before mentioned, and thence turned to the right up the hill, which formerly was a part of the Duke of Norfolk's park; but it has been disparked some years, and now produces a yearly rent of about eighteen hundred pounds. The old manor house is on the left as we come to the top of this hill, and is so placed as to command one of the finest prospects that I think I ever had in view, having on all hands great extent and variety of woods, open hills, enclosures, rivers, and towns. It lies in much ruin at this time, and a few more years will very probably complete its desolation; it has not for some time been made any use of for the reception of any of the family, and by their tearing to pieces the inside of it, one may guess that it is never designed to receive any more of them. It is not above four years since the bowels of the great gallery were ripped up, and the oak wainscot that lined it sold about the neighbourhood for the mean price of six pence per yard. Any person that is not acquainted with the particular reasons the family may have for it, might think it somewhat strange, that in that very part of the country, where there is so very considerable a yearly revenue accruing to his Grace of no less

than seven or eight thousand pounds, and where he frequently makes some stay, the ancient habitation should not only be suffered to fall to decay, but even its ruin furthered and promoted, and yet no new one rising up to supply its room. His Grace having an apartment only fitted up for him at his agent Mr. Sherburn's house in the town, whenever he comes into this part of his estate, but as such management is of a private nature a stranger must be incapable, and consequently it cannot become him, to make any reflections upon it.

About two miles from the town of Sheffield we pass over a small brook, the name of which I could not learn, it runs there through an open country, and I take notice of it not for any particular excellence of the stream, but for its being a boundary here betwixt the counties of York and Derby, which we now enter into, through the greatest number of wild stunted holly trees that I ever saw together. They extend themselves on the common, on each side of the brook I mentioned, for a considerable way. This tract of ground they grow upon is called the Burley Hollings: how they come to be there planted, whether placed there by human skill, or had original possession of the place I was not informed, but the soil seems to agree so well with them, that they would if permitted in all probability shoot up into very beautiful trees, which they are now prevented from doing by having their branches lopped off every winter for the support of the sheep which browse upon them, and at the same time are sheltered by the stunted part that is left remaining; this tract of land seems by nature to be well laid out for a park, and if it belongs to his Grace of Norfolk he can hardly find a piece of ground in this estate which may more commodiously be converted to supply him with deer, instead of that park he improved to better advantage near Sheffield.

Five miles from Sheffield we come by Gazeborough(?), where is a good house of Mr. Stone's, and at a small distance from it to the right is the church of Eckington, a living worth five hundred pounds per annum, at present in the possession of Mr. Griffith's, but his right is contested at law by a son of the late incumbent, who had the advowson for some term of years. A mile further we pass by Mr. Sitwell's at Rennishaugb, and a mile beyond that we pass the Rother and see Park Hall a house of — Pool, Esq., on our left, and in the bottom on the right is Staly, the seat of Lord James Cavendish. About the midway to Welbeck we made a short stop at a new built little box, very pleasantly situated in a grove of fine young thriving oaks, it belongs to a gentleman of the law, Mr. Wright, who accompanied us on our way from Sheffield hither, and after having conducted us through an excessive bad piece of way beyond Clown took his leave on the Common. We came on through Whitwell, and thence forward had ways opened for us through the enclosed grounds in order to avoid the deep impassable lanes, and we were by this time sufficiently convinced how impracticable it had been to have finished our journey the evening before. The first highway we came into after traversing these enclosures was a wide lane lying betwixt Worksop Manor and Welbeck, and at a quarter before five in the evening, having been this day in motion from Sheffield for about seven hours and a half (being sixteen computed miles), all that are in the beginning of this journal mentioned to have a hand in this Northern expedition arrived with great safety to Welbeck House, which considering the many casualties we must have been naturally subject to, even from the mere length of such a journey, which taking in all deviations from the direct road cannot according to common

computation be less than eight hundred miles, must be esteemed a singular mercy of Almighty God, but if we add to this the difficulty, the uncouthness, and the danger we were exposed to by the badness of roads, together with the unseasonable cold and rain and storm, that followed us for the greatest part of the time, and yet not to have endured so much as an inconvenience by the loss or disorder of horse or man, must by us be attributed to the special protection of Providence stretched forth to his unworthy servants. In this view of it, at eight of the clock in the evening at your Lordship's chapel, we offered up a particular collect of humble acknowledgements for this great blessing by your Lordship's particular commands and direction to your poor chaplain, and if all that attended these travels of your Lordship's have but the like sense raised in them of their protection and deliverance, they will reflect on it as the happiest pilgrimage they shall ever make on this stage of the world. *Gloria patri. &c. Sicut erat in principio, &c.*

I did not send down these two sheets yesterday morning together with the rest because a thought came just then into my head, of drawing up some apology for my not specifying in the proper places, my being always directed by your Lordship to such of those observations as may deserve any regard in this journal. This your Lordship knows to be matter of fact, and I have not justly acknowledged it in the proper places, but this thought of apologizing I have utterly rejected, as too stiff and formal in a matter of such low concern, and which is to pass before no eyes but your Lordship's and my own. I hope, however trifling this may seem, the running it over will contribute a little to your amusement, and if so, I shall not look upon myself to have been entirely guilty of a *strenua inertia* in transmitting these sheets.

T. T.

"AN ACCOUNT OF A JOURNEY MADE THROUGH PART OF THE COUNTIES OF
SUFFOLK, NORFOLK, AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE IN THE MONTH OF
SEPTEMBER, 1732."

In the handwriting of the second Earl of Oxford.

Tuesday, September the 12th we set out from Dover Street and arrived in good time about three o'clock and in good health at Down Hall in Essex. We had the good fortune that some rain fell the day before which made the journey much more agreeable. We stayed all Wednesday at Down Hall.

We were in company in my coach Lady Oxford, Lady Margaret Cavendish Harley, Miss Philippa Walton and myself, videlicet, the Earl of Oxford. My lord Dupplin rode on horseback.

On the Wednesday I sent over to my friend Mr. Bacon at Catley, that if it was convenient that we all would dine with him on the next day, Thursday the 14th September, in our way to Newmarket. He returned an answer that he would be very glad to see us there. Accordingly on Thursday the 14th September we set out, and when we turned to the right hand by my Lord Suffolk's park wall in order to go to Catley, the second coach and such servants went on for Newmarket. Mr. Bacon kindly sent a servant to meet us to show us the way, which is very intricate being cross the country. We arrived at his house about half an hour after one o'clock. We were very handsomely and very kindly entertained. We saw a great number of pictures, many very fine. Upon the staircase is the fine drawing in Indian ink upon paper by old Vanderveld of the sea fight between the Danes and the Dutch in the year 16[28?]. This drawing is very well preserved, and is in very great perfection. It was sold in Sykes's auction of pictures after he died for about sixty or seventy pounds, and it was said that old Sykes refused 400*l.* which my Lord Orford offered him for it many years since. There is a fine picture of the Duke of Monmouth, a whole length, by Sir Peter Lely. Dr. Radcliffe bought this picture, gave fourscore pounds for it, sent it as a present to the Duchess of Bolton, the Duke's natural daughter. She said what should I do with this picture, bid the Doctor send me twenty guineas and take away the picture. A fine picture of the Duke of Ormond painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller, and one of Prince Eugene of Savoy. This was Dr. Radcliffe's, painted for him by Sir Godfrey Kneller. It would be endless to go over the pictures; in particular there is one large picture upon the staircase, it is the history of St. George the Martyr, it is a very good copy by , the original is painted by P. Veronese in the church at Verona in Italy. It was brought over by the Marquis of Blandford, and sold after his death for a mere trifle, the cost of the frame.

Mr. Bacon has also a very great collection of books, but they want both good clothes, and a good case for them. They are in several garrets and small rooms. There has been a great deal of money laid out here. Mr. Bacon left the old house standing and added wings of brick, and stables. This house and estate was left to him by his uncle, Sir Thomas Scater. He took the name of Bacon upon marrying an heiress that was his charge. He had a very considerable estate by her which she was entitled to upon her brother's death, who died beyond sea about the year 1715. She died

in the year 1726. He had no children by her. She left a most excellent character behind her, as a very good woman and very charitable, as well as a very good wife. Mr. Bacon has much increased the estate his uncle left him, as well by the fortune of his lady as by his care and good management. He has purchased several very great estates in the County of Cambridge as elsewhere. He has this year made a park which is above two miles round, and enclosed it with a most excellent fence of oak pales. There is a very fine prospect from his house, and a very good length. It is a pity he did not pull the old house down, which is only plaster and lath, especially when he laid out so much money. After dinner we took our leaves of Mr. Bacon and his friend Mr. Sutton Cony who dined with us, and went for Newmarket. It was past eight of the clock at night before we got there. We took up our lodging at the sign of the "Greyhound" over against the King's house. It is kept by Mrs. Clements, a widow, a very good inn. We saw nothing remarkable here, not having time to go see the horses.

Friday morning September 15 we set out for Edmund's Bury, a place of great note. Here was a noble rich abbey built A.D. 1020 in honour of St. Edmund the King and Martyr. The great gate still remains which shows the antiquity as well as the beauty of that sort of architecture. The rooms where the porter kept is a stable (*sic*), and I saw a bear put his head out of one of the holes; it being near the fair, those creatures are brought there for to be shown, and this gateway is their general residence. We went to see the churches; the first that we saw was St. Mary's, which stands higher than the other.

In this church there are two old monuments near the altar; on the left hand as you go up is Sir William Carew, his effigy lies upon the monument, round the verge are these words still remain[ing] "Willelmi Carew militis anno millessimo quingentessimo primo": the arms the same as the family in Devonshire which is —

On the right hand one of the family of the Drury's: the letters are defaced quite. Very near the communion table within the rail is a tomb raised, in which upon opening of it was found the last year (1731) the body of Mary^(a) Queen of France in a coffin within this tomb, an altar insular not laid in the ground. Upon the coffin was this short inscription "Mary Queen of France." The lead coffin that covered the body was made like a skeleton to humour what was within.

There is buried in the north aisle an archdeacon of Sudbury with a brass plate.

In the south aisle is the tomb of one John Barret with his effigy, and a device or rebus in the ceiling.

The dimensions of the church are as follows:—

The length of the body of the church is	-	-	-	135 feet 7 inches.
The length of the chancel is	-	-	-	74 " 2 "
Of the whole	-	-	-	212 " 9 "

Breadth of the chancel, 27 feet 10 inches; of the church, 67 feet 6 inches.

(a) Mary Queen of France. She was third daughter of King Henry the seventh. She was married to Louis XII. King of France in 1514, and she was crowned Queen of France. He died January 1, 1515. She returned to England, and was in 1517 married to the famous Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. She died at Westhorpe in Suffolk June 25, 1533, and was buried in the abbey of St. Edmund's Bury.

For a further account consult Sandford's *Genealogical History of the Kings of England*, page 509, the first edition. *Lord Oxford's Note in MS.*

We then went to see St. James's church. These are the only churches in Edmund's Bury, both did belong to the noble abbey. These with the gate I mentioned before are the chief ruins, I might say the only ones that are left of that noble and once magnificent place. These churches are the only parish churches in Edmund's Bury. They have one churchyard; the ground lies between the two churches; many monuments in the churchyard, some of good work but standing in the air are much spoilt; some rows of trees in the churchyard.

The town is neat and well inhabited. Judge Lee has a good house here new built; Lord Chief Baron Reynolds an old house but a good one. He was a native of this place; he served as member of parliament several years. He bears a great character as an upright judge, a polite scholar, a good companion, and an honest and true friend. He was for some years quite blind, recovered his eyes by (*sic*)

The Recorder Mr. Turner has a good house upon the Market hill, as also Sir Caen James. Here in this town did live that infamous man Mr. Arundel Coke, who acted that bloody wicked part upon his brother-in-law Mr. Crispe by the assistance of his accomplice Woodburne; see the account of the trial. Mr. Crispe is now living in his house on Market hill; he has no children, they were poisoned by Mr. Coke. When I was at Bury in the year 1716 I then saw this Mr. Coke; he had a very good appearance and was very well behaved, and much respected by the gentlemen of the country. The desire of his brother's estate carried him on to act that piece of villany; so that covetousness is justly called the root of all evil. He received a just reward, for he was hanged. His widow lives in a small village not far from the town.

We dined at the "Angel" upon Angel hill, one of the worst inns I ever was at. It is kept by one Hannibal Hill, a great sot, being now quite stupid, whatever he might have been. The room we dined in is much decorated (as Mr. Kent's phrase is, and those that follow him) with the paintings or rather daubings of one Bryan Hill, nephew to our landlord. The works of this gentleman's hand are the only proper pieces to decorate the buildings of Mr. Kent or his great patron the Earl of Burlington, and I wish he was their sworn servant, only to attend them and their operations, that he might not fall in the way of any honest gentleman to cheat him of his money. But these wishes though well meant are like most others vain and of no effect.

There is in this town an excellent school taught by Mr. Kingsman; he was formerly an assistant to Westminster School; he was of Trinity College. He was brought to Westminster by that excellent master Mr. George Tollet when he was second master. Mr. Kingsman follows the Westminster method; he has introduced the acting Latin plays as well as English, and has bred many excellent scholars.

We also took a view of their assembly room which is a very indifferent one, though much talked of. There was great preparations for the fair, which was to commence that day sevensnight. It is much frequented by the ladies that live in the counties adjacent, to show themselves and make their market. It is kept upon Market hill.

The river is made navigable almost to the town. They were twenty years before they brought it as it is; they can bring up eight or ten chaldrons of coals. The navigation is through Mildenhall, Barton Mills, it falls into the Cambridge river at a place called Prick Willow. It has been effected about ten years. They carry a greater burthen than the boats do upon the river that goes to Thetford. This year has been very bad for them, the water is very scarce.

The air is very sharp in this town; it lies high, and the country about it is open, as it is all from Newmarket to this place. Fevers are very severe here; when once they begin they generally affect the inhabitants and make very great destruction. There are a great many seats near this town, but we had not time to see them. The "Antiquities" of this place was begun by Archdeacon Battley, but he made little progress, what he left, as I was informed by Mr. Baker, was a mere skeleton of a work. The many registers and cartularies that are yet extant show the greatness of the place both as to power and riches of the Abbey.

From Edmund's Bury we set out about three o'clock. We did design to have reached Bungay, but we found it was not practicable, though the roads were very good, yet the miles were too long to compass what we proposed.

Three miles from Edmund's Bury we passed through Ixworth, my Lord Bristol's estate. He was by Queen Anne created Baron Hervey of Ickworth, Earl of Bristol by King George I. The house is not in sight; it is a very indifferent one, the park is very pleasant, well situated.

Then we came to Stanton, from thence to Botesdale, a very remarkable steeple, very curious the work. About a mile out of the town on the left hand we saw upon the hill an old seat called Redgrave. It was the seat of the Bacons, one of the first baronets. It was purchased by my Lord Chief Justice Holt of the Pacons. It now belongs to Mr. Holt; his elder brother died about 172 . He married the Lady Jane Wharton, sister to the late Duke, but left no children. There were three brothers, they were nephews to the famous Lord Chief Justice Holt, being sons of Rowland Holt who was brother to my Lord Chief Justice Holt. The two eldest killed themselves with drinking. This gentleman who now is in possession of this estate is the third brother. He was a Custom House officer in Kent, about fourscore pounds a year. He married one Mrs. Washington of Berkshire. He will have a considerable fortune by her. She was worth to him above 1,000*l*. when he had only that small office, and the only provision he had then; he has several children. He is very covetous, very much out of the way in his behaviour, exceedingly proud. This estate coming to him, he thinks himself equal, if not superior, to most people. We came to a place called Seole Inn just at the entrance of the county of Norfolk. It is famous for a sign set up many years since; there is a ballad made upon it by Mr. Broome, Ben Jonson's man. It is printed with his works as well as in several other books and collections of poems. It is of oak, abundance of figures as big as the life; many of the figures are broken off, being gone to decay. The proverb says that

Good wine needs no bush
A good face needs no band

but the case of this inn is that the famous sign wants a house and good entertainment. I just looked into the kitchen, which by the smallness of the fire, there was but poor doings to be expected: in short, there was no good sign at all. We did at last arrive at Harleston. We lay at the "Swan," kept by Alexander Staples. Well for us it was that Lord Dupplin and the cook went before and got into the inn some time before us, so little was to be got, and much work had it been if those people of the house had been to have dressed it. There was a long room between thirty and forty feet in length and above fifteen in breadth. The man of the house said that the

gentlemen of the country had often balls and great entertainments there. I hope they were better provided, there seemed to be very small encouragement. This house and the "Angel" may go together for two of the worst inns in England that ever I was in, not quite forgetting Scole Inn. Here at Harleston is built, at the charge of the parish with the help of contributions and charities, a large chapel of ease, for the use of the inhabitants of Harleston, the parish church being a mile off at Redenhall. Archbishop Sancroft left a thousand pounds for prayers to be on Wednesdays and Fridays, and such a number of poor children to be taught. The good deprived Archbishop died at Fressingfield in Suffolk. See an account of his death wrote by Mr. Wagstaff in 8vo.

Saturday morning the 16th of September we left this place. The first we came to was Redenhall, a very large church, the parish church to Harleston. Upon the steeple was marked in large iron figures 1616; the building, of flints and bricks and other stone, has a very good effect.

The Duke of Norfolk is lord here, and is lord paramount of this Hundred; Earsham park is the Duke's. The next place is Bungay, which stands upon the River Waveney. Here we are in Suffolk again: in the road between Harleston and this place we often exchanged one county for the other. It is a pretty large town; a good church. There was an old castle there. When we got upon the hill above the town towards Yarmouth it appeared very well, seeing the church, town, and river to a great advantage. As soon as we are out of the town we are again in Norfolk. This castle was thought so very strong and impregnable by the person that fortified it, Hugh Bigod; this he did in the Barons' wars. He made his boast of the strength of his castle in this manner, as it is said, in these following words:—

Were I in my castle of Bungey,
Upon the river of Waveney,
I would ne care for the King of Cokeney—

i.e. London. This Mr. Camden quotes in his "Britannia," but does not say from whence he had those lines. This famous castle is now brought even with the ground, by time and civil wars. We passed near a seat of Sir Charles Turner's called Kirby, but it was not in sight. We went by the gate of Sir Edmund Bacon's seat called Gillingham, a very odd appearance. This worthy knight is called Eggs and Bacon for his wise speeches in the House of Commons when the salt duty was taken off. The country people call him Gillingham Sir Edmund, to distinguish him from the other Sir Edmund Bacon of Garboldisham, now one of the knights of the shire for Norfolk. He is the first baronet of England. Redgrave the seat now of the Holts did belong to this family. This gentleman sold the estate of Wendy in Cambridgeshire, which came to him by marrying the heiress of Kemp to whom this estate did belong, to the Earl of Orford, who left it with his other estates to his niece the Lady Tipping, and upon her death the whole estate was divided between her two daughters. Upon the division this estate of Wendy came to her eldest daughter, who married Mr. Sandys of Worcestershire, and they are now in possession of it, October 1732.

We then came to a place called Hadiscoe's dam; it is a fine causeway of above two miles in length, and posts set up to guide passengers in case of floods, that they may keep the causeway. This was made by a private person.

On the right we saw Fritton Decoy, it belongs to Mr. Fowler. We then had a full view of the town of Yarmouth; it has a very good appearance; as it is built in length, we saw the whole. We passed the river Yare over a drawbridge which is to let the ships go up the river. Between two and three o'clock came to the "Three Cranes" that stands upon the quay next to the Custom House, kept by Mr. Hawkeston, who himself has a ship that he goes out with and trades. We dined there and stayed there all night. The inn was but indifferent, being an old house new fronted, consequently many upstairs and down small rooms. We had herrings for dinner caught that very morning, and was the first string they had this year, which were most delicious, never having eat them in so great perfection, but to my great disappointment we could get no other fish, the wind was so high that the fishermen could not go out without much danger, and little good to be caught. As soon as we had dined, we all went into what is called Yarmouth coaches, to see the mouth of the river and the pier. The original design of these machines, which now in merriment are called Yarmouth coaches, was to bring goods from the quay to the several owners. They are something of the nature of a sledge, as at Bristol, with one horse, but behind these are two clog wheels under the seat you sit upon, or where the goods used to be placed. They have of late much improved these machines, making a place to sit for two persons, with the addition of velvet, damask, and worked cushions. The person that drives you stands upon the pieces of wood just behind the horse; these pieces of wood go from one shaft to the other. They will drive very smartly, and with great swiftness. There is very little danger of overturning, though they run with great violence, and so near as to touch one another. The wheels are placed so under the seat that they cannot be entangled one with another. In these equipages we rode to the pier, and the mouth of the river Yare. The pier is a chargeable piece of work, being made of timber, which often wants repairs. Upon this pier is an engine to draw the ships into the river to come up to the quay, the bar being so great and the sands so high, the fall out being in proportion too small, that without these engines it would not be possible to get the ships into the river, and it is often with great difficulty that they are got safe. There is a fort but small; Captain Russell is the commander, Mr. Wakeman under him; few guns, none seemed to be of any use. It was well provisioned with men and stores of all kinds during the war; now it is not worth the expense. This place has been fatal to many colliers, and it is called their grave. We drove back again the same way to the inn. We got out of our machines, and walked to see the Town Hall; large room, very good conveniences below stairs, but very ill built, for one corner begins to give way: it is a new building.

Three hundred ships of the small craft (as it is called) belong to this town, as coal ships and coasters. They have besides a great trade with herrings to the Straits, and also with the Dutch for several commodities. It is very remarkable that they carry herrings to Holland to be cured, what they call white herring; and the Dutch bring herrings to Yarmouth to be made red herring: they certainly do both at each place, but they are not allowed to be so good as what is made at the proper places. There is a byword or saying "a Yarmouth capon," that is a red herring. The quay is fine, being one mile in length. Houses are built all along by the quay, leaving a space of above threescore feet from the houses to the verge of the water. The houses are very neat, built with bricks and flints; the streets are but narrow;

there are small passages left at proper distances for the Yarmouth coaches to pass, to carry the goods from the quay to the owners' houses.

On Sunday we went to see the chapel or new church. It is dedicated to St. George. It is built by Act of Parliament which passed It is very handsome. The Act of Parliament charges one shilling and sixpence upon every chaldron of coals burnt in the town of Yarmouth for thirty years, which was to be a fund for the building; and the Act also charges six pence upon every chaldron for ever, to maintain the building in repair, and to pay those that officiate there.

Towards the sea there is a wall and port holes for guns; between the wall and the sea, which is to the east, is a large piece of ground where the linen of the town is washed and bleached. There are two fine wells of water which are not at all brackish. The river Yare runs upon the west parallel with the sea, which is upon the east.

The market place is very handsome and large; and a walk of trees consisting of four rows or more of trees leading to the church, which is a very large one. It consists of the body or middle part of the church, and two large aisles. The body of the church and the south aisle are made use of for Divine Service; the other to the north, no use is made of it except to put lumber out of the way, and it is quite neglected. The minister reads prayers in a pulpit upon the north side of the body of the church over against the pulpit from whence the sermon is preached; the church is divided at the east end from that part of the church where divine service is now performed: the middle part I suppose was formerly designed for a choir; the aisles here are of the same breadth, and are all used for a burying place. Several monuments are there, inscriptions surely worth taking, but I had not time. Here are in this town a charity school, and a workhouse, by which means that, being well regulated and taken care of, there are no beggars in these streets. Here is also an hospital for poor fishermen, which was built in 1702. It is but small now, but I do not doubt but it will be increased by the Corporation, when there appears to be an occasion, for the Corporation have a very great estate, and they make a very good use of it, besides entertaining those they would pay a respect to, for they take great care to keep up all public buildings in good repair, and the public roads that belong to them in good order. At the east end of the church, which is now made use of for a burial place, there are hung up against the wall two large boards or tables painted black and letters wrote in gold, giving an account of their benefactors, which are very numerous, as well as the benefactions large. The Corporation have a very good estate in Ireland. There appears through the whole town a great spirit of neatness and elegance in their buildings, or in whatever they do. They are said to have learned this from the great intercourse they have with the Dutch: *Fas est et ab hoste doceri*: and certainly the Dutch may be said always to be enemies to the English in trade. Though the town seemed very neat and clean now, yet it is said when they are curing of herrings it is extremely offensive: they have an excellent way of curing sprats. I had like to have forgot to mention that the Corporation of Yarmouth have the power of life and death for any crime committed within their jurisdiction, which by law is punished with death. The Recorder is the Judge. The present Recorder is Mr. The gallows is about a mile from the town; there was an execution not long since—last year—for a robbery.

I think I have omitted nothing relating to this place that I either saw or heard of. I will now take my leave of this town, which is the prettiest seaport town that belongs to this island; the finest quay certainly that belongs to any seaport town. I heartily wish this place all prosperity; that their trade may increase in all branches of it, and that they may get the better of their rivals in trade—the Dutch—is my most sincere wish.

On Sunday, September 17th, about eleven o'clock we set out towards Norwich. For two miles out of the town of Yarmouth we went upon a most noble causeway, made and maintained by the Corporation of Yarmouth, to a town called Caistor; it used to be all a perfect bog. It was attempted to be planted with trees on each side, but they will not thrive, so subject to be overflowed. We left the sea upon the right hand, and the rivers Yare and Waveney on the left. At Filby we passed by what is in this country called a Broad water, in another it would be called a mere or a lake. There is a great variety of fish and very good as I have been informed; it belongs to Mr. Lucas. The church here is pretty good, as Burgh is a very poor one. Next town Acle, a large town; between Acle and Blofield are the three Birlinghams, very good churches: the church of Blofield is a very handsome one. From thence to Thorpe within two miles of Norwich. Between Blofield and Norwich is a most noble prospect and extremely beautiful. When you come upon the hill, on the left hand you overlook a fine rich vale, the river Yare running in fine windings, the hills at a proper distance clothed with fine woods, and the other part cultivated, either grass ground or ploughed, and farmhouses scattered up and down, making all together a most beautiful landscape, worthy to have been imitated by the famous landskip painter Gaspar Poussin. This vale is terminated by a view of the City of Norwich, which has a very fine effect, and there runs another river into the Yare called Winder. At the point of this hill there is part of an old ruin which is called Kett's castle. This Kett was a tanner; he raised a rebellion in Edward the sixth's time. There is a book in Latin in quarto, 1575, wrote by Alexander Nevile^d and translated into English by R.W. 1615, both these I have. We go down a steep hill to Norwich, a bridge over the Yare, and through Bishopsgate. We went to the "Maiden Head," over against the church dedicated to St. Simon and St. Jude, kept by Charles Denham, who was bred to the law, married the widow that formerly kept this house. His present wife is his second. A very good inn, very civil people, and excellent accommodations. He produced a note of thirteen several sorts of liquors he had and very good.

Here we dined, and here we stayed all night.

Before dinner we went to see the Castle which stands upon a high hill, a large prospect of the town, but not so agreeable as that from the hill above the town. There is a large part of the old building that remains; it is converted into a gaol. The churches stand very thick and add much to the prospect: the number is thirty six. The next morning we went to see the Cathedral, which is a very large building. In our way we passed under a gate which is very fine for that sort of work. It is said to be built by Sir Thomas Erpingham, being enjoined

* Alexander Nevile put out a book *De furoribus Norfolciensium Kett duce and Norricus*, in quarto 1575. The names of the Mayors, &c., to 1574. R.W. i.e. Richard Wood, translated the Norfolk Furies under Kett, very exactly; but as to the *Norricus*, he has made a thing of his own—very wretched piece. He has continued the Mayors, &c., to the year 1626 inclusive. *Note in MS.*

so to do by way of penance; the word *pœna* is often upon the gates: it is not said for what crime this pecuniary punishment was inflicted upon him. It is very entire and was built in the reign of Henry the Sixth. The present Bishop is Dr. Baker: he is minister of St. Giles, Holborn. He was of Oxford, Wadham College, a most worthless wretch. This bishopric used generally to be given to Cambridge men; it is worth about 1,600*l.* per annum; it takes in the two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. There is a large market-place, and extremely well provided with all manner of provisions on market days. They were pulling down the remains of the old Cross, they said it would fall, but I know not what is to be put in the room of it, whether an equestrian figure or some statue. A very good school* is here, the master's name is ; about 90 boys: we begged them a holiday. We saw the new Hall, which was the church of the Benedictines. The room is a very good one. There are the pictures of Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark, there is also a picture of the horse called Sorrel that flung King William. There was in this city a company called the Company of St. George; they were assistant to the Court of Aldermen and Common Council, but it is now dissolved. An apothecary Mr. , who was one of the Company, gave us this account:—In the corner of the hall there is a figure of St. George killing the Dragon, there is at the other end of the hall a sort of a machine like a dragon, which used to be carried on men's shoulders upon high days when the Corporation made their processions. The use of this was that by spitting of fire it drove the mob away, and they had certainly need of it, for I think I never was in so mobbish a place, we could scarce walk the streets for the numbers of people that flocked about us. There are no beggars in this town. There is a workhouse set up, and by good fortune to the town all parties join to keep it up. The poor rates were very high before, the innkeeper told me, that the poor's tax in this town was lessened 1,000*l.* the year before, and hoped it would be lessened 1,500*l.* more in some little time.

The Duke of Norfolk has a house here, but much out of repair. The offices are still standing which were very large. When they lived here there was a very fine bowling green. This place gives the title of Earl of Norwich to this family. This Duke would have bought a house here but was tricked out of it, for fear the Duke should come and live here and alter the present prevailing interest in the Corporation. The buildings here are chiefly of brick and flints, which have a good effect. There is a wall in the town all of flints and is above twenty feet high; the flints are all cut even and lie so close that there appears no line in the joints: it is the wall of their Bridewell. There is an account of Norwich printed, said to be wrote by Sir Thomas Browne, M.D.; it is printed in 8vo, with some account of his life, and some other pieces of his, 1712.

Monday, September the 18th, we left Norwich and came to Fakenham. We came there in good time. The town is a very poor town, but it was the only place we could stay at to make our journey right. We lay at the "Red Lion" kept by one Cook, a sorry house. Before dinner we went to see the church, which is a very large one, some monumental inscriptions.

* It was a chapel dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. See an account of the antiquities of this place printed at the end of the account of Norwich by Sir Thomas Browne: there is a print of the school. *Note in MS.*

Inscriptions in the church at Fakenham in Comit: Norff:

“Jacobus
 Domini Christophori Calthorp
 Militis Balnei, et Domini Doro-
 theæ Filiae Domini Gulielmi
 Spring de Suffolciâ Baronetti
 Conjugis Dilectissimæ
 Filius natu maximus.
 Vir optime constans erat Benignique animi
 Ac ex ipsis Religionis Principis vere Pius
 Natus Junij 9^{no} 1673.
 Obijt Junij 29^{to} 1696.”

“Sr Christopher Calthorp of East Basham K^t of the Bath and the last Survivor of 68 Knights Companions of that Hon^{ble} order. He was eldest Son of Ja^s Calthorp Esq^r and Katherine his wife 2^d Da^r of Sr Edw^d Lewkenor of Denham in the County of Suff: K^t. He married Dorothy the Da^r of Sr W^m Spring of Pakenham Bart and Dame Elizabeth his wife, whose body lyes here Interr’d next his.

He dyed y^e 7th of Feb. 1717-8

Aged 75 y^{rs}

CREST.

“Dame Dorothy Calthorp only Surviving Daughter of Sr W^m Spring of Pakenham in the County of Suff: Bart and Dame Elizab. his wife and the sole, and for her Singular Virtues most intirely beloved, Wife of Sr Christopher Calthorp from the 19th of Sept^r 1664, to the 7th of Feb. 1715, when it pleased God to put a period to her life having been the mother of fourteen children viz. Nine Daughters & five Sons of which, six Daughters & all the Sons deceased before her, whose dust rests by her in this Isle or the contiguous churchyard in hopes of a Joyfull Resurrection.

The names of the Deceased.

Dars.	Sonns.
Mary Calthorp.	Jas: Calthorp.
Barbar: Calthorp.	Chr: Calthorp.
Doroth: Calthorp.	Hen: Calthorp.
Alice Calthorp.	Chr: Calthorp.
Barb: Calthorp.	—— Calthorp an Infant.
Jane Calthorp.	

Nat. Sept. 1648. Mort: 7 Feb. 1714-5.”

“ In Spein Beatæ Resurrectionis
 Sub hoc Marmore (suo ipsius Defuncti
 Regatu hoc in Loco posito) Conduntur
 Reliquie Christopheri Calthorp Arin :
 Filij 4ⁱ Christopheri Calthorp
 de East Basham in Comitatu. Norff :
 Mil. Balnei qui post longem Veletudinem
 minus firmam desiderium Amicis et Flebilis
 omnibus Animam Deo Reddidit 7^o Die Aug^t.

A^o Dmⁱ 1713.

Annoque Ætatis 32.”

“ Opposite to this Monument on the South side of the Isle lyeth the Body of Christopher Calthorpe, Esq^r Sonn of S^r Christ: Calthorp Kn^t of the Bath, Grand Sonn of S^r Chr: Calth: K^t of the Bath. The loss of a youth of such promising parts and Ingenuity and the last Heyr male of this elder branch of that Antient family can never be enough lamented.

He died of a violent feavour at the School of St. Edmunds Bury the 6th day of the Novem: 1720. Aged 13 years and 1 Day.”

These inscriptions before were the only ones worth taking notice of.

This family is now extinct as to the males, one of the daughters is married to Sir Thomas L'Estrange of Hunstanton in this county, two daughters unmarried. The right of presentation to this church is in the gift of Trinity College in Cambridge, and to add to the number of villanous actions of Bentley and his creatures, they have presented that infamous rascal Dr Hacket to be parson, and to hold his fellowship with it, and it is one of the best livings in the college gift, being worth 250*l.* per annum. Dr. Hopkins his predecessor was a very worthy man: his successor will take care that his memory shall be very precious at Fakenham. This Hacket came last April to this living. He raised them before the harvest fifty pounds, and swears that next year he will, as he calls it, jerk their buffs, and raise them much more if he can. He says he does it wherever he goes. God have mercy upon that parish he is to teach, or to have anything to do with, he will damn their souls, starve their bodies, and flay their skins. There is a very good parsonage house here, I suppose built by Dr. Hopkins, it seems to be new.

The road we came from Norwich to Fakenham was not the direct road, but the particulars shall be set down at the end of this account of the journey with the number of miles as we went each day, which being in one scheme it will be better.

As soon as we came to Fakenham I sent a servant William Rawling to Rainham, my Lord Townshend's seat, three miles from Fakenham, to desire to know how he did, to make our compliments, and that if it was convenient we would dine with him the next day. He sent, soon after my servant returned, his gentleman with a compliment to invite us to his house to lie there, that he was very sorry we did not come to his house for he was afraid our accommodations, where we were, were very indifferent; and indeed they were so, but we could not then alter; that he should be very glad to see us the next day. I sent him word that I would wait upon him next morning, and that I should be very glad to ride out with my Lord about his park. Accordingly the next morning Tuesday, September the 19th, my Lord Dupplin and I set out before nine o'clock on

horseback for Rainham. We had not gone a great way, not a quarter of a mile from the town, but a servant of my Lord Townshend's met us, the keeper, near a mill and a large water near the town of Fakenham, which is called the Winsder. About two miles and a half we turned out of the great road into some grounds, which led us into the park, which seemed very large. We came by a pyramid raised to be a termination of the view of the house, which is to the north east: the pyramid is of wood. The park is very finely wooded. We left the ladies to come at their own time after us, which they did in about two hours. We rode to the house; my Lord received us at the hall-door very kindly; we drank some chocolate, and then we got up on horseback. My Lord and his son Mr. Roger Townshend, who is in the Guards, rode with us. My Lord showed me his improvements that he has made, and also what he designs. They have succeeded very well, and they are very fine, very great, and very profitable, and have turned to very good account. The house stands free from all walls. Those my Lord pulled down and made his kitchen ground and fruit garden, quite out of sight of the house upon the decline of the hill. As the park is most nobly wooded, so it is as finely watered. There is a lake of above thirty acres fed with springs within itself. My Lord has the command of a river which rises not far from him, which he can turn into his lake when he pleases, but even in these dry years he had no occasion. He lets off one hundred and eighteen acres to a tenant to graze, it is railed from the rest, but his deer go over the whole, and he receives one hundred and eighteen pounds per annum for it. My Lord also told me that he had improved his paternal estate above nine hundred pounds a year, which is very great. He designs to enclose his whole estate. The great improvements he has made have been by enclosures, by marl which he has a great quantity of, and he was one of the first that made so great use of it, and then the next by sowing turnips.

He built two large farms this year and improved them. There is one point of view in his park which is very beautiful; you look upon a lawn which is upon the decline, at the bottom you have this most noble lake of water, you look up another fine large lawn which has of each side noble large oaks, and the end of this lawn is terminated with a wood of large oak trees.* I never saw hills so properly and so finely clothed. There are no words can describe the beauties of this place. It is by much the finest in England that ever I saw, and I think vastly superior to Mr. Aislabie's, near Ripon in Yorkshire, which is very much cried up.

About an hour before dinner we returned home, looked over the house, which is a very good one. It was built by his great grandfather in King James the First's time.† My Lord has altered the whole inside, and has made it extremely convenient, and it is well furnished. There is a very fine picture, full length, of the late Queen Anne, which was painted for him when he was ambassador in Holland, when he made the infamous treaty, the Barrier Treaty. There is a very fine picture of Belisarius, painted by Salvator Rosa; it was given my Lord by the King of Prussia. The hall is a good room; the next to it is furnished with full length pictures of the famous Sir Francis

* From the point of view above mentioned you also see the house, which has a very good effect. *Note in MS.*

† The house is said to be the architecture of Inigo Jones. *Note in MS.*

Vere's officers, all painted by Cornelius Johnson. See Sir Francis Vere's Commentaries, where in the preface they are all named. The rooms are fitted up by Mr. Kent, and consequently there is a great deal of gilding; very clumsy over-charged chimney pieces to the great waste of fine marble. Kent has parted the dining room to make a sort of buffet, by the arch of Severus; surely a most preposterous thing to introduce a building in a room, which was designed to stand in the street. There is round the house at a proper distance a sort of a frame of fine old trees, if I may use the expression of frame. He designs two fine seats to terminate to points, these will be built of stone. My Lord is always turning his thoughts to improvements. He is resolved never to see London again. It is happy for him that he can live contentedly here and free from the storms and shipwrecks of state. I think he has been a very fortunate man to get himself so well out from among the politicians and courtiers and ministers.

My Lord's eldest daughter that is unmarried, Mistress Townshend, keeps his house, a very pretty as well as fine young lady, and very well behaved, Miss Molly the youngest daughter, Mr. Roger of the Guards, and Master Augustus who is at sea, these were all my Lord's children that were then with him. We were extremely well entertained, a very handsome dinner, and particularly the largest and finest trench that ever I saw or tasted, and they were as good as they looked. I am very unwilling to leave this place, one might very long dwell upon the beauties of it, and be always discovering some new ones.

We parted from this fine place in the afternoon to go to Houghton, the seat of the great Sir Robert Walpole. It is about four very short miles from Rainham. This house at Houghton has made a great deal of noise, but I think it is not deserving of it. Some admire it because it belongs to the first Minister; others envy it because it is his, and consequently rail at it. These gentlemen's praise and blame are not worth anything, because they know nothing of the art of building, or anything about it. I think it is neither magnificent nor beautiful, there is a very great expense without either judgment or taste. The two best rooms are the hall and the saloon, which take up just the depth of the house. The measure of the hall, as well as the plan of the house, are exhibited in that ignorant rascal's book called "*Vitruvius Britannicus*," the editor Colin Campbell; there is some small alteration, as the roofs of the towers,* else it is exact. In the saloon are a great many fine pictures, particularly the famous Markets of Snyder, but I think they are very oddly put up, one is above the other and joined in the middle with a thin piece of wood gilt. It is certainly wrong because as these pictures of the markets were painted to one point of view, and to be even with the eye, they certainly ought not to be put one above another, besides that narrow gold ledge that is between the two pictures takes the eye and has a very ill effect.

In the hall there is a most noble cast of the Laocoon, which my Lord Walpole brought from Italy. There are the casts of two river gods the Tiber and the Nile, very fine ones. The room is much crowded with 'terms' and bustos, and besides the room is very

*Which were altered by Mr. Gibbs from the first design. The house as it is now is a composition of the greatest blockheads and most ignorant fellows in architecture that are. I think Gibbs was to blame to alter any of their designs or mend their blunders. Sir Robert Walpole was in the Treasury, and Gibbs is a Scotchman. Note in *MS*.

dark, for the light which should come from the lower windows is intercepted by the gallery above ; and the light that should come from the attic windows that also is intercepted by a large projecting cornice. In this hall hangs the much talked of lanthorn, which the " Craftsman " was so idle to take notice of. In the first place it is very ugly, and in the next it is not really big enough for the room it hangs in. It cost Sir Robert Walpole at an auction one hundred and seventy pounds. There are niches for statues, but there are no statues but terms are put in them and bustos put upon them, which I think have a very ill effect. There is in the well of the staircase the fine cast of the Gladiator, which was given Sir Robert Walpole by the Earl of Pembroke, upon a most clumsy pedestal, which is supported by four columns fluted. It fills the well of the staircase. It is very ill placed, for you cannot stand anywhere to have a good view of it, which is a great pity. No apartments in the whole house. There are twenty bedchambers but small ; the rooms in the four towers have each a little room for a servant to lie in ; the dining room or eating room is not finished ; the buffet is lined with marble, Mr. Rysbrach is making a chimney piece for it of exquisite workmanship ; the design is Kent's, which is no addition to it. I took notice of Sir Robert's own bedchamber ; the bed is shut up in a box, a case made of mahogany with glass, as if it was a cabin, the room small, my lady's picture over the chimney. They showed us with ceremony, this is the room the Duke of Lorraine lay in, a very indifferent room. I suppose it is always to go after his name.

There is a room where there are hangings done from the pictures of King James the First, his Queen with her little dogs and horse, the King of Denmark her father, and King Charles the First. What is called the hunting apartment, I like it not, though it is much commended, the rooms are low and being even with the ground one seems to be under ground, and it has a very ill look in my opinion. The kitchen is very fine, four large chimneys ; the offices are very large and very convenient, over them are a great many lodging rooms. The stables are not yet built, the foundations not dug. The body of the house projects a great way before the wings, as you may see from the plan in the third volume of " Vitruvius Britannicus." There is a double colonnade, one open, the other shut up.* My Lord Hay† was there seeking for water, but I believe he will find none ; all that they have is drawn up out of a very deep well. I dare say had the money which has been laid out here, nay and much less, been put into the hands of a man of taste and understanding, there would have been a much finer house, and better rooms, and greater.

It is certainly a very great disadvantage to see this place after Rainham ; for here is neither wood, water, nor prospect that any place has that is worthy to be called a seat, how much short must it be of Rainham which has all those in high perfection. We did not go into the gardens, we saw enough of them from the windows. There is a famous inscription put upon the first stone, made in Latin by Dr. Bland, then Master of Eton School.

About six o'clock we left this place, and drove for Lynn. It was a fine moonshiny night, but it was not light enough to distinguish

* In this house there are the greatest profusion and waste of mahogany wood that ever I saw. The doors which are all of that wood are near inches thick, most monstrous ! *Note in MS.*

† If my good Lord Hay finds water, he, being a true Scot, I dare say will make Sir Robert Walpole pay well for employing such an engineer. *Note in MS.*

places. It is about fourteen miles from Houghton to Lynn. We came there about half an hour past nine o'clock, to the "Duke's Head," a very large house upon the market place, very civil people, kept by Mr. Robert Chennery. The house belongs to one Mr. John Turner, as also a large house which was his dwelling house over against this inn. He broke a few years since, and the real estate is in the possession of the creditors. The statute of bankrupt was taken out by his friends, and it is feared that his creditors will suffer in not having a true account of his stock and personal estate. He is nephew to Sir Charles Turner; he married his cousin.

We saw the market place, which is fine and large. The Cross is very pretty. It is a very elegant building, there is a room upstairs I think a hexagon, where the corporation meet upon public days of rejoicing. There is a balcony round covered with lead and defended by an iron rail. The shambles are on each side of the Cross, an open colonnade, very prettily designed by one Mr. Bell, who was an Alderman. We looked upon the quay, but it is nothing. It is made up of private houses where they put up their goods; they are indeed warehouses, but they do not seem to be well contrived, no way to compare to the quay at Yarmouth. There is a statue in the market place of King James the Second. There is no equestrian statue of King William, neither in the market place nor anywhere else in the town, as I could see or hear of, though Mr. Mackey says so in his "Tour through Great Britain," Vol. 1, page 112: this is not the only lie in that author's book. The trade of this place is much decayed of late years by the deaths of some considerable people, their estates being very often diverted another way than kept in trade, but more from the bankrupts and failing of many. Mr. Turner was a considerable dealer and his going off affected abundance of people.

Their trade is wines from Portugal, the Norway trade, and the coal trade. They might also very much improve their east country trade. There was a project to trade to the West Indies, which they might have done, but they wanted a proper spirit to carry it on, as well as a good foundation. We went to the Mayor's house, where, according to custom, we drank out of what they call King John's cup, but not at the rate some have done and been quite drunk. We also saw the sword which they say was given them by King John, but I believe the sword and cup are much of the same date for antiquity. The cup I guess did belong to some monastery, and sword and cup were given them sometime in King Henry the Eighth's time; their charter was confirmed by King Henry the Eighth. There is a note from Sir Henry Spelman's papers which is printed at the bottom of one of the pages in the new and last edition of Camden's "Britannia," page 471, vol. 1st; this makes it of less antiquity than King Henry the Eighth. It is most likely upon several accounts that that king gave them both sword and cup. The cup and sword are both drawn in the plan of Lynn town which I brought there.

We also saw the church, which is a very large one, dedicated to St. Margaret. There are more old brasses than I have seen kept entire upon the monuments, and very large ones. There is a small library at the west end of the church. From thence we went to the town-hall, a very good room. There are rooms within for the entertainment of the Corporation, as well as for the business to be transacted there. There are some pictures of the Mayors, but some have been taken away. There are also what they call Heads of the Kings of England, but are a set of the vilest pictures that probably can be, much worse than any sign post.

The Corporation allows the Mayor one hundred pounds for entertaining. The gentleman that was Mayor when we were there was Mr. Baggs, who is a brewer,* and I have been told that Sir Robert Walpole is very kind to help them, sometimes at the expense of 200*l.*: he and Sir Charles Turner are chose here. Mr. Taylor, who is Receiver for the County of Cambridge, and of that part of the county of Norfolk that lies towards Cambridgeshire, which is the west side of the county, came and paid his compliments to us at the inn, and went about the town with us. He is a very civil man, and a very ingenious man; this act of his civility was done at the instigation of Mr. Alderman Nutting of Cambridge. This Mr. Taylor is a great dealer, and it is no small advantage to him to have the power of so much money for sometimes for six, seven, or eight months. This was not thought well of, and there was a sort of representation drawn up and sent to Sir Robert Walpole and Sir Charles Turner complaining that it was a great prejudice to trade, that so much money as the Receiver of the Land tax for two counties must have always by him to employ as he pleases, but it had no effect. There is very great uneasiness among the people upon account of the decay of trade. Sir Robert Walpole has endeavoured to stifle these complaints, but as people feel, they will certainly break out in stronger terms, and it may be out of his power to lay the storms that may arise: let him look to that. Here is a workhouse, but not put to that good use that at Norwich is put to, for here you are pestered with beggars to a great degree.

The town is very well situated for trade, and by their situation they cannot well be injured in case of a war by their enemies. Some few years ago the navigation was but bad, the harbour was choked up, but there came some waters down that cleared it of the silt and stuff; but without care that will grow again. The tide was out, which made the river look worse. At Candlemas there is a fair which lasts about a fortnight; it is called Lynn Mart. The great dealers all go down to furnish themselves with all sorts of commodities; this has also been upon the decay for some years last past. There have been a great number of projects relating to this place, both as to the harbour, and to the draining other parts of the Fens. Many tracts have been wrote against one another, but there has of late been no general great scheme for the good of the whole, but has been always for some private job. I purchased what plans I could of the town and harbour; they are drawn by Mr. Henry Bell who designed the Cross and the shambles; he was a very ingenious man; he was mayor of the town in 1693, when he had a chart made of the jurisdiction of the Admiralty of Kings Lynn. I purchased seven plans of all sizes and views, and also the chart that is just before mentioned. I here take my leave of this place. I wish they may recover their ancient trade and prosperity; this I wish for the good of the neighbouring counties who would reap also the benefit as well as the town of Lynn, but I am afraid that I shall never live to see this brought about.

We received just as we were going away a very kind and obliging message from my Lord Berkshire to know how we did, and to invite us all over to dine with him at Castle Rising, which we could not possibly do. My Lord Berkshire was there taking possession of part of the noble estate that fell to him by the care and kindness of my Lady Diana Fielding. He deserves it very well.

* Mr. Farthing was chose after we were there; he is the Mayor now. He and his father are considerable dealers, and are quite opposite the interest of Sir Robert Walpole. *Note in MS.*

From this place Wednesday, September the 20th, 1732, we set out. The first place we stopped at was Narford, the seat of Sir Andrew Fountaine. It is a pretty box, a great deal of gilding and painting done by very bad hands; many pictures, most copies. The library is very smart and beauish, there are round the room the heads of several learned men, but very ill done. The joiners' work as well as the painters' is very bad; in short, all parts are most vilely finished by all workmen. There are some very pretty things over his cabinets in his library. What he could not sell of his collection to his chaps (*sic*) in London, he has brought down here to ornament this fine gimcrack of a house. He carried us to see his china room, but took us through his kitchen, perhaps to show us that meat was dressing there, and more than ordinary because my Lord Lovel was to dine with him, and at the same time to wipe off the scandal that his kitchen was so neat no meat was ever dressed in it.

His china room is a most wretched place, set out upon shelves like a shop, no old china, a mere baby room. We then went to see a fine China cock pheasant. It is most extremely beautiful, the variety of colours so great and so much in perfection. This is the second I ever saw, Sir Matthew Decker's was the first. I am told many are brought over, but do not breed. There is here a small paddock with some Indian deer in it, mere affectation; he values himself much for a pretty design of a deer house, a ridiculous trifle, a thing of boards. His great walk is terminated by a building made of rough stone in the form something like the Arch of Severus. It is certainly more proper to be there than in an eating parlour. But the great and true beauty of this place is the fine rivulet of water that runs through his garden, and in great plenty, which is a great addition to it. He may have what ponds he pleases or any ornaments of water in great, but these sort of gentlemen like nothing but in miniature. This gentleman was knighted by Thomas, Earl of Pembroke, when he was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He was vice-chamberlain to the present Queen, when Princess, has quitted that, and has a place in the Mint, seldom comes to London.

From Narford we did intend to have gone by Swaffham,* but we were advised to keep the middle way, which we did, and came to a place called Cley, five very long miles. The Duke of Montrose has a house here which he hires of Mr. Dashwood. The ground seems very poor, an open country. Before we came to Cley we saw on the right hand a herd of bustards, about nine or ten. I never saw any alive in the fields, these large birds always delighting in champaign countries, because as they are very heavy and their wings but short, that it is a long time before they can get upon the wing, they run a long time before they mount, they are often caught with greyhounds before they can get from the ground. If they were not in an open country they would soon be destroyed, having no way to avoid their enemies in enclosures, but where they are open, and upon their guard, but that does not save them. They are esteemed a rarity and must be had; if all were of my taste they would be unmolested, and die natural deaths.

I forgot that between Cley and Hilburgh we saw Oxburgh, a seat of Sir Henry Bedingfield's, on the right hand; and on the left hand about half a mile is Mr. Nelthorp's called Moundford. He is called Rugged Nelthorp, not from any rigid virtue, but from his pride and ill nature.

* This is the church said to be built by a pedlar. This story is fully confuted in a letter to Mr. Thomas Hearne from Beaupre Bell, Esquire, which Mr. Hearne has printed. See his edition of Walter Hemingford, printed, 2 vols. 8vo, 1731, appendix to the preface No. XIV, page 180. *Note in MS.*

Sir Robert Walpole often lies here. We came to Brandon^c in good time to the "White Hart," kept by Richard Hammond, small house, good accommodations and very civil people. Here we dined and took up our lodging, it being too late in the day to go over the sands.

The next day Thursday, September the 21st, 1732, we set out from Brandon, seven long, very long miles to Barton Mills over the sands, terrible tedious travelling both to man and horse. I could not but reflect what terrible travelling it must be where the heat of the sun is intense upon the wide sandy deserts, where the poor travellers are often smothered with the sand or scorched with the sun's heat reflected from the burning sands. We leave the sands at Barton Mills, which we were very glad of. The river that runs by Barton Mills is navigable as I said to Bury. We left Mildenhall, the seat of Sir Thomas Hammer, on the right hand, a most miserable situation. On one side he is subject to be choked with sand, on the other he lives close to a dark vile black fen which lies to the north east of him; so that he enjoys that wicked wind with the addition of the air from that fen.

Chippenham, the late Earl of Orford's, we left on the right hand, and in good time we came to Newmarket, the "Greyhound," the same inn we were at before, where we dined, and then set out from thence for Winpole, where I thank God we all arrived safely by six o'clock, without any accident to ourselves, to our servants, or to our horses, in the space of ten days, and going above two hundred miles, which was a very great mercy and happiness, for which God's holy name be with all due thankfulness blessed and praised.

An Abstract of the above route.

Thursday, September 11.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Down Hall		
to Hockerill - -	6	
Stansted - -	3	
Newport - -	6	Shortgrove, Lord Thomond's, on the right.
Audley End - -	2	Lord Suffolk's.
Catley - -	5	Dined at Mr. Bacon's, Linton Parish.
Newmarket - -	13	Lay at the "Greyhound" kept by Mrs. Clements.

35

Friday, September 15.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Newmarket		
to St. Edmund's Bury-	12	Dined at the "Angel" kept by Hannibal Hill.
Ixworth - -	3	Lord Bristol's house not in sight.
Stanton - -	4	

*The river here is navigable up to Thetford. *Note in MS.*

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
Botesdale - -	4	Mr. Holt's house on the left.
Thrandeston - -	3	
Stuston - -	2	A famous sign.
Scole - -	1	
Billingford - -	2	
Thorpe - -	1	Lay at the "Swan" kept by Alexander Staples.
Broadway Street -	1	
Harleston - -	3	

36

Saturday, September 16.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Harleston		
to Redenhall - -	1	Duke of Norfolk's Park. He is Lord paramount of this Hundred.
Denton - -	3	
Earsham - -	1	Sir Charles Turner's not in sight.
Bungay - -	2	
Ellingham - -	2	
Kirby Green - -	—	Sir Edmund Bacon.
Gelderstone - -	2	
Gillingham - -	1	A fine dam and causeway of two miles.
Toft - -	3	
Hadiscoe - -	1	Mr. Fowler's Decoy.
St. Olaves - -	2	
Fritton - -	1	Dined and lay at the "Three Cranes" on the Quay, kept by Mr. Hawkston.
Bradwell Mill -	2	
Gorleston - -	1	
Yarmouth - -	1	

23

Sunday, September 17.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Yarmouth		
to Caistor - -	2	Road made by Yarmouth Corporation.
Filby - -	3	A Broad water belonging to Mr. Lucas.
Burgh - -	2	
Billockby - -	1	Between Blofield and Norwich fine views particularly on the hill just above Norwich.
Acle - -	2	
Blofield - -	5	
Thorpe - -	3	Dined and lay at the "Maid's Head," over against St. Simon and Jude, kept by Charles Denton.
Norwich - -	2	

20

Monday, September 18.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Norwich		
to Drayton - -	3	
Attlebridge - -	3	
Morton - -	—	Court Esling on the left.
Lenwade - -	1	From Lenwade bridge to Billingford, a fine prospect.
Sparham - -	2	
Billingford - -	2	
Elmham - -	2	Mr. Warner's on the right.
Brisley - -	2	
Colkirk - -	4	Mr. Kelsall's on the left.
Pudding Norton - -	2	Mr. Lunn hires of Sir Francis Andrews.
Hampton - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Fakenham - -	$\frac{1}{2}$	We dined and lay at the "Red Lion" kept by Cook.
22		

The direct way from Norwich to Fakenham is from Sparham to go to Bawdeswell, Bintree, Guist, Stibbard Gap. But we went for Houghton, but turned off at Brisley to the right for Fakenham.

The direct way from Norwich to Houghton is to keep the middle road at Brisley to Whissonsett, Rainham, Rudham.

Tuesday, September 19.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Fakenham		
to Rainham - -	3	Lord Townshend's.
Houghton - -	5	Sir Robert Walpole's.
Lynn - -	10	Hellington is halfway from Houghton to Lynn. At Lynn we lay at the "Duke's Head" kept by Mr. Chennery.
18		

Wednesday, September 20.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Lynn		
to Hardwick - -	1	
Middleton - -	2	
East Winch - -	1	
Bilney - -	1	
Narford - -	2	Sir Andrew Fountaine's.
Cley - -	5	Duke of Montrose hires a house of Mr. Dashwood.
Hilburgh - -	3	Between Cley and Hilburgh you see Oxburgh.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
Moundford - -	4	Sir H. Bedingfield's on the right. . Mr. Nethorp's on the left, $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile.
Brandon - -	4	We dined and lay at the "White Hart" kept by Mr. Richard Hammond.

23

Thursday, September 21.

TOWNS.	MILES.	GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, &c.
From Brandon		
to Eriswell - -	4	
Barton Mills - -	3	Mildenhall, Sir T. Hammer's, on the right.
Newmarket - -	7	Dined at the "Greyhound."
Bottisham - -	5	
Cambridge - -	5	
Wimpole - -	7	

31

The number of miles performed each day.

	MILES.
Thursday, September 14	35
Friday, ..	15 36
Saturday, ..	16 23
Sunday, ..	17 20
Monday, ..	18 22
Tuesday, ..	19 18
Wednesday, ..	20 23
Thursday, ..	21 31

In all 208 computed miles.

A JOURNEY IN THE EASTERN COUNTIES, December, 1737—January, 1738.

(In the handwriting of the second Earl of Orford.)

Wednesday December 28, 1737.—Mr. West and I set out from his chambers in Lincoln's Inn about eight o'clock in my chariot and six horses attended by Thomas, Charles, Ben upon the seventh coach horse, Pluckrose upon my black horse, and Mr. West's man named Gabriel. Thus attended we set forward towards Chelmsford. We were obliged to stop at a little nasty house called Hare Street, famous for cakes, for the wheels being new and never used before took fire. We drove on and a little before we came to Ingatestone they were very bad. We stopped, and Mr. West and I walked up to my Lord Petre's house, sent the chariot to be greased and the fire quenched. This house is called Ingatestone Hall, it is the old seat of the family, built by Sir William Petre in Queen Mary's time: he was the raiser of the family. The house is large and convenient, several old pictures, good gardens, a very pleasant country about it, and a very pretty walk over

the fields to the church, where the family are buried. Several monuments in the church, but want much to be put in repair. This Lord does not live here, he lives about seven miles off. This Lord is a great lover of exotic plants and raises a great many, and he is said by those that understand it that he is one of the best botanists in England. From hence we went for Chelmsford. Within a mile we left Moulsham on the right hand, it is my Lord Fitz Walter's, he has laid out money upon it. The town takes its name from the Chelm that runs by it; it has been much rebuilt of late years, a very good church here. My Lord Fitz Walter is in this parish and he is one of the churchwardens. The churchyard is well planted, the walks gravelled; this is the Mall for the beaux and the belles of Chelmsford.

In this town there is a conduit which runs constantly out of three spouts, it never fails, and fine water it is. There are the Duke of Albemarle's arms and Fitz Walter's, I suppose they contributed to bring the water to this place from springs about a mile from the town. We lay at the "Ipswich Arms," but an indifferent inn.

Thursday, December 29, 1737.—We proceeded in our journey, and about two miles from Chelmsford we went to see the ruins of New Hall. We went up the fine avenue of lime trees, the house is all uncovered, the floors taken up and sold, all the chimney pieces gone, and all is to be sold as fast as there are bidders. We went into the chapel and there remains still at the east end a very fine painted window which is entire and of fine workmanship. At the bottom on one side is Henry the Seventh praying, on the other side his queen in the same posture. Over the king is a whole length of St. George, over the queen is a figure of the Virgin, a whole length. The other part is the story of our Saviour's crucifixion. This window was preserved by what destroys other things, the ivy was grown so high that it quite covered it, the people could not see to throw stones and break it. A gentleman happened lately to discover it, and the Society of Antiquaries have sent a man down to have it drawn and they will grave it. Mr. Ben Hoare, who has bought this estate, has built a house three quarters of a mile from the old house, near the road, and has placed it so that he has no benefit of the fine avenue, nor of the noble fir grove, the finest I ever saw. Such is the fine taste of a banker in Fleet Street. He has laid out above twelve thousand pounds, and when he bought it first had he laid out six or eight thousand pounds he had enjoyed one of the best houses in England. From thence we proceeded through a very fine country over excellent roads to the famous town of Colchester, a very extraordinary place. It was a Roman town, the castle that now remains is of Roman work, it is nobly arched all underneath. Several attempts there have been to pull it down, but as good luck would have it, the castle walls have proved too strong. The town is a pleasant town; here are fourteen churches. The place is very populous. I went to a church called St. Giles's where lie buried Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle who were shot in the Civil War. The inscription is cut remarkably deep; I have the inscription but cannot find it at present: you shall have it.

We dined exceedingly well at a very good inn. From thence we proceeded to Ipswich, set up at the "Cross" tavern in the Market place, very good people.

Friday, December 30.—We took a walk in the town, saw the church, and went to Christ church. This is now in possession of one Mr. Fonneraw, the son of a Hamburg merchant. The fine bowling green

is quite destroyed, the park ill kept, he has done something to the repairs of the house. Sir William Barker's house is sold to an attorney. There are a great many people that have got money, and having left off trade come and live here. The place is extremely pleasant, very plentiful, and very healthful. They live very merrily as far as balls and assemblies will contribute to it. Thence we took our road to Diss (a town just in Norfolk and just out of Suffolk, through a road that is called the Pye road, which would have been very difficult to have passed had not the frost bor[n]e. This brought us to the worst town and to the worst inn I ever was at in Britain, for there was neither meat, drink, nor beds fit for Christian people to make use of. Our supper and dinner was a crop of pork, this was the only tolerable thing, which proved to be a neck, beef steaks as black as a shoe and as tough, half raw, sweetbreads the gall broke, so not eatable. The people of the house said we were very nice, they did not know what we [would?] have. I had the good luck to have some wine of my own. We rose next morning much more tired than we went to bed.

Saturday, December 31.—We took a walk of about a little mile to see one Mr. Martin an attorney, who has got a very pretty collection of books printed, and several very curious things, and some very fine manuscripts. We returned to our excellent inn, we mounted our chariot and drove towards Thetford, with a resolution never to see Diss again, except upon compulsion. In our way we called to see Euston Hall, the seat of the Duke of Grafton. The park is pretty well, the house very indifferent, the furniture old and bad, the pictures very poor and mean. I was extremely disappointed in every part. I had heard so much of the house and pictures from several persons in a very different light from what I really found it. I often wished that if it were possible one should make this resolution to oneself, which is, that upon hearing the description of any places not to form too high an idea of them, not even so far as the person described the places, for that is often too high, and then when you actually do see them, the places fall so very short of your expectation, and your disappointment being so very great, that one can scarce bring oneself to do justice to the places, and what they really are. But this is not I doubt to be obtained by anybody, for, as Prior says, *Alma will run away with you in spite of all your prudence*. We went from this place to Thetford, two small miles from Euston; the inn very well considering the place from whence we came. The town of Thetford is very poor and mean, much decayed, as I was told, of late years, many houses dropping down not worth repairing. About this town Mr. Robinson and his company shot so many partridges that the people will I believe never forget them, near a thousand birds.

January 1, 1737-8.—From Thetford we went to a town called Swaffham; found a good inn, where we dined very well. The church here is of much note, not only that it is an extreme pretty one, but also for the story that goes of it; that the north aisle and the steeple were built by a pedlar. The story goes that he dreamed and found some hid treasure. As to the dream I say nothing to it, but this I saw that there was a very ancient piece of carving in the north aisle of the church which represented the pedlar and his dog and also his wife selling of goods, and their name. We have now but an indifferent notion of the trade of a pedlar, but at that time of the day, some hundreds of years ago, they were the only persons that trafficked about the country and got much money, and therefore I make no doubt but the fact was so,

that a pedlar by trade did give great assistance to the rebuilding the church in this place. From hence we went directly to Houghton, about fifteen miles. We had like to have lost our road and have gone for Norwich, but a farmer we met set us right, though we had a guide that pretended he knew the road very well. We set up at the inn Sir Robert has built since you was there. After we had been there about half an hour my Lord Walpole sent his steward up to invite me down, and that he had ordered his chariot to come and bring me down. I made several excuses but the man would not hearken to them, for he had positive orders not to stir without me, and must take no denial. The chariot came and in it Mr. West and I mounted and away to the hall we went. As soon as we came my Lord Walpole was at the door ready to receive us, which he did in a most civil manner as could be. He conducted us up into the dining room where his company was, Sir Henry Bedingfield, and some others. About nine we went to supper, a very good one; my Lord conducted me up, he said he would do it for the first time, but not after, and that he chose to lay me in a bed well aired than in a finer. I thanked him for his goodness. I lay in an excellent damask bed. The next morning all go down and breakfast in the hunting parlour, where Horace Walpole's picture is, if you remember when you was there. In this room we also sup. For breakfast everybody calls for what he will; people do not all come at a time, which is wrong. Then we walked over the house and looked over the pictures. That room where the Duke of Lorraine lay was furnished with a fine worked bed that is now removed and put into another room upon that floor, and in the stead of the worked bed is a most noble green velvet bed trimmed with gold, very rich and very elegant, not overdone. The fine marble room is finished, and a most beautiful chimney piece made by Rysbrach as can be seen. We went then to the stables and saw them; they were built since you was there; they are extremely handsome and convenient, beyond what I have seen. About eleven my Lord ordered his chair and he drove me about the park and the plantations, which are very fine and thrive extremely well, and in a very few years, for example five, will make a very amazing appearance that it will not be known. And all these vast plantations are from what Sir Robert has sowed the seeds. I saw the water which is very fine and holds well. There is a basin before the house, which has a very good effect. Upon our return we saw all the offices and cellars; all the house is arched quite under; all the conveniences are made that can be thought of. The several officers have all within themselves for their use, cook, butler, housekeeper, wash house, laundry, brew house. We then took another view of the pictures, and indeed they are very exquisite; the more one sees the more one admires and desires to see. We had a very handsome dinner. We were treated with all the civility, good nature, freedom, ease, and cheerfulness as I ever saw; nothing was wanting. I took my leave that night, and the next morning we set out in very rainy weather. Just stopped at Swaffham, then to Brandon, the inn we were before, lay there, and this of Tuesday January 3.

Wednesday, January 4.—We set out for Newmarket, but called to see the house of Sir Thomas Hanmer's I had heard so much of. Never was so vile a house so vilely situated, and so vilely furnished as this; so we met with another bite. We dined at Newmarket, at the "Greyhound"; thence to Chesterford, a most excellent inn. In this inn is a fine bedstead that was Queen Elizabeth's; it is finely japanned,

and looks well. We lay there that night, and, January 5, we set out for Down Hall, where we stayed till Saturday the 7th, and in safety that day I thank God we got safe to Dover Street.

A JOURNEY THROUGH HAMPSHIRE, WILTSHIRE AND BERKSHIRE TO
OXFORD, 1738.

(In the handwriting of the second Earl of Oxford and apparently addressed to the Countess.)

Fancying to myself that it would not be very disagreeable to you to have some account of my late excursion, the hopes I conceive that it may prove some little amusement and diversion to you, it makes my thoughts flow the pleasanter and my pen more readily obeys. Please to take notice that when I come to places where we have been before I shall only mention [them], but not at large, and only touch upon those things that passed our observation when we were there, or had not time nor opportunity to see. I think that flinging this short account into the method of a letter or letters will be the best for you that read, and more methodical to me that write. To proceed then :—

LETTER I.

Sunday, October 22, 1738.—I set out from Dover Street in my chariot and six horses, attended by Rawlings on horseback, Thomas Theobalds on horseback, William Pluckrose leading my horse, Ben the keeper on the seventh coach horse, Charles Barlee behind the chariot. We thus proceeded till we were stopped on this side Hounslow for the horse to be changed that was newly shod and cut to the quick. We reached Staines where I stopped to give the horses some hay and water. From thence to Bagshot, where I lay, having appointed the Colonel to meet me there. He came from Oxford, and arrived in the evening in good health. Here we lay and had good accommodation. The next morning at six o'clock the coachman sent me word that the horse that was lame coming from the Bath, and the other that was lamed with shoeing, were not fit to travel any further, and Ben might lead them to London gently, till well ; by good luck my Lord Duke of Roxburgh's coachman had eight horses, and he let me have one. The horses are his own, he lets them to the Duke. So on Monday the 23rd we went to Alton to dine, where we had been before, and at the same house. Nothing new occurred there, but I learned that this place is famous for making barracan, and five hundred people are employed in this work. From thence we went to Alresford, where we lay, but I had no rest as I will soon demonstrate to you. After supper I went up to go to bed, the supper being good I expected a good bed. Upon opening the room I found it quite full of smoke ; this was occasioned by there being two chimneys in the room and making fires in them both, under pretence I should not be cold. The first thing was to get free of the smoke, which made me so sick and my eyes so sore I did not know what to do. The windows were flung open, and it rained and blew a great storm that it was most uncomfortable. The fire was put out and I at last got to bed ; but such a bed, there were great bumps much bigger than my fist and as hard, the bed clothes as heavy as lead, the bolster and pillows filled with new feathers that they stank like the devil. You will be I believe well convinced that I had not much rest.

What is most remarkable here is that a little below the town is a large pond called Alresford pond, here rises the river Itchin which goes to Winchester, and at Southampton it is joined by another river called the Test, which makes the great river at Southampton.

This inn at Alresford I call the second part of New Romney. As soon as it was light we got away and before nine o'clock we arrived at Winchester, and in the house of Master Gauntlet. The first thing I did was to write to my Lady Peterborough to let her know I would dine with her the next day, if it was convenient. I had a most obliging answer, as I informed you in a former letter. We then took our walk to the Cathedral, which I looked over with more curious eyes than I had done before. I took notice in the choir of a fine old pulpit carved and given by one Silkstead who had been prior of Winchester. I also took notice of the nave of the church, that is where the crosses meet; this was beautiful and repaired by King Charles the 1st, and there is his picture with his son, King Charles the 2nd, in his arms. King Charles the 1st gave the fine canopy over the altar, as also the fine prayer books for the service of the altar. I do not doubt but you remember the fine steps to the altar, the fine rail, and the extreme curious pavement composed of several sorts of marble. This was done by the will of Dr. William Harris, who died in 1700, and bequeathed to the church 800*l.* for that design, and it is executed with great exactness and beauty. I think this gentleman's name should not be forgot.

I do not know if you took notice in one of the side aisles of a monument (it is only a flat stone upon the floor) of the Countess of Essex. She was married to Sir Thomas Higgins, and he made an oration in the church at the funeral, and if you please to remember I showed it you in manuscript.

We then proceeded to the college, the church, school and library. These places afforded us no manner of new discovery. And here I will end my first letter, and will proceed further, hoping that you will pardon all mistakes, blots and blunders which the Brethren of the Quill are too subject to fall into.

LETTER II.

Winchester.—I think I left you at the College, if I mistake not, at the end of my last. We went then a little lower down to see the Bishop's palace. It was re-built by Bishop Morley soon after the Restoration. It is a good house, very good rooms below, a very good large dining room above, and a very handsome gallery. Bishop Trelawney much repaired it and lived there a great part of his time. Trimmel, liked it but his time was short. There is an old chapel, there are very great ruins of the palace Cardinal Wolsey built, and even the new palace is called Wolsey House to this day. Bishop Trelawney had put upon the pillars that were of each side the gates two wolves, being his own crest. This Bishop [Hoadly] took them down, said it was too barefaced to have wolves before an episcopal palace. He, good man, being Dr. Smooth, chooses rather to be a wolf in sheep's clothing.

A little below the Bishop's house is the quay; the river is navigable to Winchester, boats of thirty and forty tons come up to the quay from Southampton. There is a very fine useful library here, the benefaction of Bishop Morley. We could not get to see it because that the person that had the key was gone out, and not to return in some days; so being for public use and benefit designed by the good Bishop, this

worthy person locks it up for his own private use, but more I suspect to hinder anybody else the use of it. I mention this with more concern because one of the noblest books that we have in the English language was compiled by the sole help of this library: the book I mean is Mr. Bingham's Ecclesiastical History.

From the Church we walked up the town, and went to take a view of the King's house upon the hill. It stands very high in a very fine country and overlooks all Winchester and St. Cross. Here did anciently stand a castle; upon part of the site of the old castle now stands this building. This house was proposed for a hunting seat for the King, being in a fine sporting country, and not far from the famous New Forest. The plan or design was made by Sir Christopher Wren, and I believe is better than ever he executed, because in this he was left to himself by the King. It was just covered in before the King died. There were five marble pillars with their capitals all wrought and put up in cases, which lay there till the late King's time, when the late Duke of Bolton begged them of the King, and they were granted to him, and he carried away above three hundred waggon loads of marble to his house at Hackwood, and there they remain still boxed up, never put up, or even seen by mortal eye. The front of the house is to the east, and the middle part of the house fronts directly upon the west end of the Cathedral: the project was to have a street of two hundred feet in breadth, and to have been noblemen's and gentlemen's houses of each side; this would have been fine. The front in the middle was composed of four Corinthian pillars and two pilasters. The middle part without the two wings was two hundred feet, the whole front with the wings was three hundred and thirty; the wings were joined to the body of the house by a fine colonnade. There was designed three cupolas, one upon each wing, and that in the middle, the third, to be so high that from thence you might see the men-of-war riding at Spithead.

This was to please the King, who loved the fleet of England, and also his successor the Duke of York, who was Lord High Admiral, and loved and understood the fleet of England. But his taste was not for building houses, for I do not know anything he built but a popish chapel which he had better have let alone. Pardon this digression. There was to be two chapels, one for the king and one for the queen; these were to go up two stories.

The middle story the rooms were to be twenty feet high; the lower story and the upper story were to be fourteen feet in height. Queen Anne and Prince George went to see the house, and there was a staircase made for them to go up to the second floor, but the Queen liked Windsor much better, so in this sad condition lies the shell of this fine house.

Near the King's house stands an ancient large building which is called King Arthur's Hall. It is a good room, the length is better than one hundred and eight feet, the height I take to be about thirty feet. There are five arches, each arch distant from one another eighteen feet. There is nailed up against the wall at the end of the hall the top of what they call Arthur's Round Table, and the places marked where his knights sat. This I do not very strictly believe, but that there was a King Arthur and that he had many* knights is most certain. The use that this room is now put to is a Court of Justice, which is made use of when the Judges come their circuits to Winchester. After these views

* Twenty four. *Note in MS.*

we returned to our inn, very hungry, very wet, and very cold, for it was a drizzling rain all day. We had a very good dinner, and a fish which is much prized and valued called a surmullet, but I did not like it; we had most excellent whittings. I wish this poor narration may give you the thousandth part of the pleasure my dinner did me, and then it will be very well. Thus ended Tuesday, October 24, 1738.

Wednesday, October 25, 1738.—We set out in the morning which was fine, and the remainder of the day proved so, and went to pay a visit and dine with my Lady Peterborough at her house at Mount Bevis according to her most kind invitation. We were extremely well entertained in all respects, but the most agreeable part was her conversation and cheerful behaviour, and genteel civility. We walked over the garden which was still new to me and most delightful, but the cross tide would not come up. I was very sorry that we could stay no longer, but the days were short and the ways not very good towards Winchester, but we were very thankful for the time and pleasure we had. I thank God we got safe to Winchester just as it grew dark.

If you remember there was about two miles from Mount Bevis towards Winchester a sort of a pavilion upon the brow of a hill, which you took for Mr. Holman's, but it is Colonel Fleming's that married a Crowley. Mr. Holman's drinking room [which] he built is in the noble town of Southampton. While I was at Winchester I did not hear one word of my old acquaintances, nor set eyes on them the day I walked over Winchester, and was in the school too, but the morning before I went to Mount Bevis, came some strange young gentlemen quite strangers to me, with their humble service and desired I would beg them a play. I sent them my service and that I begged their excuse, for I could not possibly do it. Now just as I was going into my chariot on Thursday to go for Salisbury I sent Rawlings with my service to Master Brudenells, Master* Tryons, desired to know how they did, and also to Master Bathurst that I wondered I had not seen him, being two days in Winchester. He said he was very sorry for it but he heard I was gone out of town. Now my design was that as he had sent the young gentlemen to me, they should understand that if he had come himself I would have granted their request. Rawlings went to the School, they all flocked about him, were in hopes he came for a play, but blank was the word.

In our way to Salisbury upon the Downs the Duchess of Leeds came to the chariot and spoke to us; my Lord has a house not far from the road. We went through Stockbridge, a very shabby town. Fine water runs through the town in several streams, it is called the river Test, it runs into the Southampton river. We baited at a place called the Hut, a very indifferent place. Just above this place† is the seat of Mr. Kemp that you have heard much of. The road from Winchester to Salisbury is all upon the Downs, but the very great rains made it very heavy, but we came in pretty good time to the "Three Golden Lions" upon the Market Place, a very good inn. I must here put an end to this my second most impertinent letter, begging pardon for the many blots and blunders I have committed, besides other impertinences, which to put a stop to I here conclude yours

THOMAS CORYAT.

*Poor Wallops were gone home upon the death of my lady *Note in MS.*
 †Since burnt down. *Note in MS.*

LETTER III.

At the end of my last letter I gave you an account of our arrival at Salisbury. We found a very good inn at the sign of the "Three Golden Lions," good provisions, good beds, a careful landlady, a drunken sot of a landlord, very like Master Roger Millart. We had rested very well had not an impertinent troublesome rascal of a fellow disturbed us before three o'clock. He was to go by the Bath stage coach which was to set out at four o'clock in the morning; he waked between two and three, heard the noise of rumbling, being a waggon going along the streets; up he got, took it for the coach, and thinking he should be left behind made the most cursed noise with hands, heels, toes, and voice, alarmed the whole house. I waked first, I called and roused Tribulation to go and see what was the matter. Trib went forth full of wrath to be disturbed, but being in his shirt he quaked like an aspen leaf, not out of fear in the least, for I heard him give very high and wrathful language, but the accents were something broke, he not being able to utter them by reason of his excessive passion, with a little of what Sir Hugh Evans in the "Merry Wives of Windsor" expressed by shallow rivers, &c.

Friday, October 27, 1738.—In about half an hour we were all composed and for the remaining part we had no new alarms. About seven we rose and prepared for our expedition to visit Wilton. We arrived there about nine o'clock, my Lord was not there, we were admitted to see the house and gardens: nobody is denied though my Lord be there.

It must require a much better pen than mine to give you an account of the fine things there, but such an imperfect account and such as I am able to give please to accept with your usual candour.

I think you have not been there since the first time that I was there with you, which was in May, 1718. The going up to the house is the same, the rooms as generally shown the same. The alterations that have been made are by this Lord, and are chiefly upon the ground floor, under the great apartments which were lumber rooms or worse. We were carried first into the porch, where there is a collection of very fine horns, there are from the largest (that is the Moose deer) to the smallest (which is the Guinea deer), of which you have both feet and horns; there are also some busts. We then went into the vestibule, a room between the hall and the dining room, full of statues and busts. In the dining room only pictures, some very good; in the drawing room pictures and two small heads in marble over the chimney. Then we proceeded to the hall, which has a gallery quite round in the nature of Greenwich hall. The hall is filled with statues, two large sarcophaguses or burial chests, a fine table of white marble of a great length, made use of for a shovel board table. Up the great staircase is all filled with marbles of one sort or other, and so on through all the rooms. We came to the room called the Hunting room painted by one Tempest. This room has not been neglected, for it has several busts. The next room is painted with the stories out of Sir Philip Sidney's *Arcadia*; this is the work of one Thomaso. We then entered the double cube room, which is the great room, and is the most beautiful room, as well as the most neatly furnished, upon account of its fine proportion, fine pictures, fine marbles of all kinds, but above all for that transcendent picture of the Pembroke family painted by the fine hand of Vandyke, and is the best picture now extant of that great

man's painting as for portraiture, and what is extraordinary is, that it is now in the highest beauty and the utmost preservation. This picture has been lately drawn by Mr. Baron, who designs to make a print of it, and I hope and do not question but he will do justice to this fine piece. I must beg leave to give a particular account of this picture before I leave Wilton, and also give some account of the other pictures of Vandyke in this great room. This present Earl has since his father's death fitted up the apartments under the great rooms next to the gardens extremely well, and by this means he has been able to sort and to range his statues, busts, bas-reliefs, inscriptions, &c., in a very fine order, and make a most beautiful disposition. There are here a vast number of very fine things, much more than could be expected, to say true, for the humour and oddness of the last old Earl was remarkable and indeed most extravagant. The number of busts amount to above one hundred and seventy, the number of statues amount to seventy odd. Besides here are inscriptions, bas-reliefs, urns, sarcophaguses, pillars of granite, fine tables, three tables of Egyptian marble, two whole columns of granite, two tables of granite, on one lies the god Somnus, a boy asleep in touchstone very fine, one fine table of lapis lazuli.

Before the house stands, in the middle of the court, a marble column of the Corinthian order with a figure of Venus upon the top of it, and it is said that it did belong to the temple of Venus that is in Rome. We walked over the gardens, which are much improved by this Lord. He has built a most beautiful bridge over the river. He has taken away the old grotto, and is making a bridge which will make a communication with the other part of the garden. He has taken all the best of the columns, pilasters, and carvings that did belong to the old grotto, and put them to this new building, which will be very pretty and have a very good effect. From this bridge of communication there will be about the middle a summerhouse which will look directly upon the beautiful steeple of Salisbury. This Lord has destroyed the old ridiculous water works and whims that were then when made much in vogue. He has a noble command of water and the river Willy runs through his garden. There is a noble row of limes, there did a road go by, but this Lord has turned it and made it fine with turf and it looks extremely well.

After we had walked in the garden we returned into the house to take another view of the pictures and fine things, having relieved our eyes with the fine verdure of the garden.

I will therefore before I go any further take the liberty to be a little more particular, and to enlarge the account of the fine room called the double cube room, because I take it, and it is generally esteemed to be the finest room in England, and the finest furnished as to pictures of that great master Vandyke, and the busts are extremely fine, that with the other ornaments it looks prodigious rich and great. I shall begin with the pictures of single persons that help to adorn this room. There are four half lengths and six whole lengths.

Half lengths are :— over the door as you come in is King Charles the First; over against him is Philip, Earl of Pembroke; on the same side with the King is Henrietta Maria; then over against her is the Lady Castlehaven.

The whole lengths on the chimney side are :— first, William, Earl of Pembroke. He had one son who died and the honour devolved to his brother Philip, Earl of Pembroke, who is the second whole length, and is the chief figure in the great picture. The third is the Duchess of

Richmond, with a dwarf four feet high ; she had been first married to the Earl of Pembroke's son. The fourth, Lady Pembroke, mother to the last Lord's elder brother ; she was daughter of Sir Robert Naunton and the widow of Paul, Lord Viscount Bayning. On the side of the windows, the fifth is a daughter of the Earl of Holland ; the sixth is the Duke of Richmond.

And now I am gone so far I am come to the grand point, the account of the great picture, my heart begins to fail me. All that keeps up my spirits to go through this is that nobody shall see these papers but your own eye, nor hear them but Miss Caesar. With this sure and certain hope I then will proceed and attempt, and a bold undertaking it is for me, to give you any account of this noble picture. If I can by what I write find a way that you may recall the ideas and refresh your memory and bring back what occurred to you when you saw this picture some years since (*sic*).

The length of the picture is eighteen feet, the height or depth is twelve feet.

The disposition of the figures is thus to be described which I do according to the best of my observation.

In the front of the picture is Philip, Earl of Pembroke, the father of the family, sitting in a great chair raised two steps, in a black habit, slashed sleeves, a short cloak with the star upon it, the collar of the Garter with the George, diamond buttons, large rich garters of black and gold, fine light blue silk stockings, rich roses to his shoes, the gold key and white staff as Lord Chamberlain ; he has also a fine lace falling band. I am the more particular in the dress of this person not only as he is the principal figure, but also as it gives a turn and life to the other figures. On my Lord's left hand sits my Lady in a great chair, all in black, with her hands before her in great tranquillity ; she was Susan, daughter to Edward Earl of Oxford. On her left hand her daughter, the Lady Anna Sophia Herbert, being led by the Earl of Carnarvon her future husband. She is dressed in blue satin, in her hair, pearls, and necklace of pearls. He is leading her up and has one foot upon the step, which gives a fine turn. He makes a fine figure and most delightful, in his own hair, in a short doublet, colour brown, a rich waistcoat, falling band, boots of a russet colour with lace and large gilt spurs as the dress was then. Upon the Earl's left hand stands, below the steps, the Lady Mary Villiers, daughter of the Duke of Buckingham. The Earl is speaking to his eldest son, who stands next to his chair, and pointing to this lady showing her as his intended bride. She makes a most beautiful figure, dressed all in white satin, some jewels, in her own hair. My Lord Herbert is listening to his father, in a red pinked habit, very graceful. These were married, they never lived together, he went abroad and died, she then was married to the Duke of Richmond. Her picture you have by Cooper from Vandyke, it is in a gilt filigree frame. Mr. Herbert in a yellow habit, with boots on, a part of shock dog appears by him. Mr. Charles, third son, in black with a book looking up. Mr. William, fourth son, in a brown dress, collar band, rich roses to his shoes and particular ornaments about his legs tied with ribbons, hair very yellow. Mr. James, fifth son, pale blue dress, he has a greyhound with him and he turns his back showing to be a youth of sport. There are in the clouds three angels ; it is said that they are to represent three children of the family that died extremely young.

There are in this noble picture ten whole length human figures besides the three angels and the two dogs : in all, fifteen.

Thus now I have gone through this work, but how I have acquitted myself I will not pretend to say ; only this, that I have done my best, and my judge is candid.

We then went and rode about the park, which is indeed extremely pretty. We went up to the Marcus Aurelius on horseback, it has a good effect. The park is about two miles and a half round ; it will be about four when my Lord has finished his design. To see this fine place we were blessed with a most delightful sunshiny day, as if Phœbus was resolved this place should appear in all its glory, and it did so.

We then took our leaves of this noble place, the like which my eyes never saw, nor never shall see, till I see this noble place again which I hope I shall, and to wait upon you, which will greatly add to the pleasure of it ; and I hope it will be in the next summer about July or August, my Lord will have then completed what he has begun, and in all manner of probability will have added or begun some more beauties.

I must now bid farewell to fine and glorious Wilton.

We then rode on to Salisbury time enough before it was dark to see the, Cathedral, which indeed is in a very dirty condition. The spire is fine being three hundred and forty feet. You remember the story of King Charles the Second, and the man that stood upon his head. The pillars are fine and light. One of the greatest curiosities is a monument of the Boy Bishop ; it is the only one in England. In commemoration of the Innocents Herod murdered, it was a custom to choose among the choristers a bishop, and if he died in his pontificate, which held a month only, he was buried in his robes, and this is a monument in stone, the figure a boy in episcopal robes ; it is much hurt, there is a grate of iron indeed but people poke their sticks through. I will speak to the Bishop, but I doubt he is too rich in his purse and too poor in his spirit to do anything. The next curiosity is what is called Hungerford chapel belonging to that noble family, but this building is following the fate of the family, dropping to pieces, no care ; and the paintings upon the wall which were curious all gone. I could not get in but looked through a hole the boys had broke into it. This is the Church where the Seymours are buried. Here also the Earls of Pembroke are buried, and many other noble families, but no care taken of either monuments or vaults. We got to our inn, got an excellent dinner and supper both together, and the Colonel and I much rejoiced over the pleasures of the day, not forgetting the good fortune we had in having so fine a day, and so good a bed.

I forget to mention Salisbury town, which I think is an exceeding nasty town, and might be kept very clean. The yard about the Cathedral is in a filthy condition, grazed by hackney horses. What I thought in the print to be the chapter house, and a fine building, proved a most odious belfry, and ready to fall in pieces. Now I have done with Salisbury never to come there more but for the sake of seeing again dear Wilton.

Saturday, October 28, 1738.—We set forward from Salisbury and went to see Stonehenge. This day was the reverse of the day before, for as that was the most bright sunshiny day, this was a strong thick fog that you could not see beyond the set of horses. We looked about Stonehenge but it was unpleasant, we could not see any of the country about us, the road indifferent. We dined at a very poor place called

Everley. We found the road down to Marlborough very bad, it was extreme slippery by reason of the great fog that made it wet. We arrived safe at the famous inn the "Angel"; we were very well entertained both at board and bed. I lay in the room you lay in; there is a fine show of plate. We set out very early next morning with a full resolution to dine at Faringdon, and to lie at Burford, for they told us that it was but sixteen miles over the downs to Faringdon, but I assure you we found it a long three and twenty miles, over vast downs, up hill and down hill, and the downs were extremely heavy. The day proved fine, which was a great comfort to us. On the right hand we left my Lord Bruce's called Tottenham park, where he lives; my Lord Craven's Ashdown park we left also on the right going just by the end of the avenue. We passed over Aldbourne chace, a very famous place for rabbits, and fine they were, we bought two couple and they answered their character when they were dressed. When we got to Faringdon we durst not venture to Burford, for we should have been in the night and perhaps have lost our way if not worse, so we lay there. There is nothing extraordinary in this town. Next day, Monday, October 30th, we set forward to Burford, where we dined. While dinner was getting ready we went and saw Mr. Lenthall's house; there are some good pictures, they say that they have the original of Sir Thomas More's family by Hans Holbein, but it is not so. There is a small old chapel, now out of use and consequently much out of repair. The church is large, several monuments, a very ancient font. There is a very good monument of Chief Justice Tanfield, whose estate the Lenthalls in part enjoy. There is within the communion rails the gravestone of the poor man that was murdered by this Lord Abercorn's father.

I thought this would have been my last side but I have a little more to say. I beg pardon for troubling you with twelve sides of such impertinent stuff.

Towards the latter part of the papers I sent to you I omitted a particular or two which I am afraid you will think but trifling, as indeed the rest of the papers are so too much, but I will go on since you seem to command it, about the Boy Bishop whose monument I mentioned to be in Salisbury Cathedral, and I mentioned it as a great curiosity, and the reason of the institution. I now add that this bishop among the choristers was chose always upon St. Nicholas's day, who is said to be the patron of little children, and women to this day say to their children when they go to bed, Good night Nicholas, that is, may St. Nicholas bless you and give you a good night, so as St. Nicholas was a young man; so if the children did not do as they should do, then it was, Old Nick shall take you: from whence came the custom of calling the devil, Old Nick.

There is also as I have mentioned before an old chapel belonging to the ancient family of the Hungerfords. In this chapel there is a painting, ancient, representing the story of the Prodigal Son. What is in this most remarkable is that in the time of our Edward the Fourth, there was a fashion to wear spikes to their shoes with chains that came up to their knees. This fashion grew troublesome as well as dangerous, and there was an order that nobody should wear a spike of above three inches. The painter thought that he could not make his prodigal more distinguishable than for him to break the orders made, and therefore has given him spikes to his shoes of above two feet long with chains to his knees of gold.

Excuse pray these little remarks.

From Burford we set out after dinner for Cornbury. We came there in very good time to see all the pictures, which are very fine and in good order; they have been lately cleaned and are kept in good order. My Lord Cornbury has done something to the park which has a good effect. You know this place is a favourite house and an admired situation of mine.

We went in the evening to Woodstock through the park and came safe to the "George" inn there, a very good house, and where we lay well. The next morning we got upon our horses and rode to Blenheim House; we were admitted; we walked at leisure over all the house, and examined all the pictures, which are very fine, but not so fine as some of them were a few years ago. Here is certainly the original picture painted by Vandyck of the Earl of Strafford dictating to his secretary Sir Philip Mainwaring, and a glorious picture it is. There is put up in the gallery about a month since the fine statue of Queen Anne carved by Rysbrach. It stands in the gallery in the bow window. They have put a curtain behind, so that when the doors are open you see it the length of the house, and it is a very fine effect. We then went into the gallery, looked round the statue, and indeed it is a most glorious piece of workmanship, and it is proper for the place where it stands. We saw the monument. We then took our horses and rode over the park, and at Bladon gate we got into the chariot, and so to the "Angel" inn in Oxford. At Christ Church they have put up the three fine collections of books lately left them [by] Dr. Stratford, my Lord Orrery, and the late Archbishop of Canterbury, and fine collections they are all in different ways. My Lord Orrery gave them several fine mathematical instruments with his books, and the Archbishop of Canterbury gave them a noble collection of medals and manuscripts: these great acquisitions have made the library at Christ Church now a very noble one. But when their new library will be finished I cannot pretend to tell.

Having heard much of the fine crosier &c. that belonged to that magnificent and munificent prelate William of Wykeham, the founder of New College in Oxford, the founder of Winchester College and School there, the repairer and beautifier of the Cathedral at Winchester, I got at last to the sight of it. It is kept with great care under several keys, but I was surprized when I saw it, the workmanship is so fine, it is far beyond that of Bishop Fox which I saw last year at Corpus Christi College. They have several boxes of jewels set in gold in several shapes, all sorts of coloured stones, these were made use of for ornaments upon particular days and occasions. They have a great quantity of seed pearl that did belong to the strings of the mitre; there is great care taken of these fine things.

The new library of Dr. Radcliffe goes on apace. I think I have mentioned everything at Oxford which you had not seen or heard of before. I stayed here till Friday, November 3, and then I took my chariot and set out for Bulstrode where I arrived in good time, and I thank God found all the family very well.

Thus ends my peregrination of near fourteen days, and I thank God met with no accident through the great variety of roads we passed over.

Please to accept this concluding sheet with the same goodness and candour as you have done the rest, and then I shall have travelled over so many sheets of paper with as much pleasure as I did over the many miles by land.

December 7, 1738.

LADY OXFORD'S JOURNEY THROUGH YORKSHIRE, DURHAM, &c., INTO
SCOTLAND, IN 1745.

1745. April 24, Wednesday.—Set out with the Right Honourable the Countess of Oxford from Welbeck, went by the Duke of Norfolk's park pale and through Worksop and by Osberton the seat of Mr. Thorney, through Bilby, a little village where Mr. Levens lives, eight miles to Blythe, where we dined at the "Angel," a very clean good inn; Mr. Mellish has a good house and gardens in this town. In the afternoon went by Rossington, a little village, to Doncaster thirteen miles, a good town well watered by the river Don, thence three miles to Brodsworth the seat of the Lady Kinnoull, a good house and an agreeable situation.

April 25, Thursday.—Went from thence through Wentbridge eight miles to Pontefract, finely situated on the top of a hill, there are several good streets and houses and the town well paved, a very handsome new built church and market house, thence two miles to Castleford bridge where we passed the river Calder. From thence three miles by Kippax Park the seat of Sir John Bland, to Ledstone a seat of the Lady Elizabeth Hastings, now rented by Mr. Bowes, it was built by Sir John Lewis in a strong plain manner of freestone, the rooms nothing extraordinary, but the situation very delightful, commanding a view of Wakefield and Leeds, and the adjacent grounds laid out very neatly. Lord Hastings is the present owner of it. From thence to Aberford three miles, where Sir Edward Gascoigne, a Roman Catholic gentleman with about 4,000*l.* per annum estate, has built a new inn, the "Swan," where we dined, both wine and provisions very bad. After dinner went three miles to Bramham-Moor the seat of Mr. Fox, where the Lord Bingley has adorned a barren country in a most delightful manner with water and wood walks, that you may ride near two miles in the gardens. Here is a good strong freestone house, a hall, saloon, two bed-chambers, drawing-room and a study on the first floor. Thence three miles to Tadcaster to Mr. Mountain's, the "White Horse," an exceeding good inn.

April 26, Friday.—Went from Tadcaster nine miles to York to the "George," before dinner went to see the Assembly Room designed by Lord Burlington, a very fine building, the great room is supported by forty four pillars and has as many windows. It is only used at Race and Assize time, there being smaller rooms for their private assemblies which they have three times a week all winter. From thence to the Town Hall, where the Lord Mayor was sitting, Mr. Raper, a jack of all trades, thence to the Mansion House and was very civilly received by the Lady Mayoress in her gold chain. There are two good parlours on the ground floor, up one pair of stairs in the front of the house is a very good room wainscotted with oak and neatly ornamented and is well proportioned, there are in it two whole length pictures, one of the son of Esme, Duke of Lennox and the other of Sir John Lister Kaye. In the afternoon went to Cliffords Tower which is a very fine ruin, saw the jails which are new built and stand very airy, from thence to the new walks by the river side which are very pleasant and will be more so when the plantations are grown, thence drove to the Cathedral, a most beautiful Gothic building, took only a short view of it for the present; and so returned to the inn.

April 27, Saturday.—Set out from York for Castle Howard, the seat of the Earl of Carlisle, went through Stockton, a little village about three miles off, and saw Sheriffs-Hutton, the seat of Mr. Thompson, at a distance on our left hand, fifteen miles to Castle-Howard. The front of the Park (which is six miles round) has a fine stone wall with battlements and towers, and you enter it under a pyramidal stone arch, which leads to the grand avenue, in which is an obelisk with an inscription to the Duke of Marlborough. Thence drove some miles in the Park over great variety of ground interspersed with the most beautiful lawns and woods to Bell-bottom, a most delightful valley wooded on each side. From thence to the Egyptian pyramid erected in honour of the Lord William Howard, an ancestor of Lord Carlisle, from thence to the Mausoleum, a very magnificent rotund building of stone not quite finished. In the lower part are sixty three niches for the coffins and over it is a chapel. The stone work is extremely well executed and the floor is finely inlaid with brass.

From thence to the Temple, an exceeding pretty building, the sides and dome highly ornamented with stucco and gilding and in it four antique bustos, the floor not finished but is to be inlaid. Thence walked into Raywood, which joins to the house and is most beautifully laid out and has several very fine trees in it. There are in the house thirteen state rooms on the first floor besides the hall. The hall is a fine room over which is a lofty dome, that and the saloon are both paved with freestone and black marble, there are two grand staircases, one on each side of the hall, in which are several antique statues and bustos collected by the present Lord. The first room on the right hand of the saloon is furnished with crimson damask and tapestry and in the corners are two antique marble bustos on terms of Oriental agate; the drawing-room is blue flowered velvet, in this room is a very fine cabinet highly ornamented with precious stones, the bed-chamber and dressing room beyond are furnished with yellow damask. The next room is at the end of the house on that side and has a bow window and two cupolas, in this room is a fine octagon table of Egyptian granite with an inlaid border, there is a picture over the chimney of his Lordship's three sisters. In the first room on the left hand of the saloon the furniture is crimson and in the drawing-room blue flowered velvet, in this room are several views of Venice by Canaletti lately put up there. There is also a jewel box of her Ladyship's richly inlaid and ornamented with stones, the bed chamber beyond is green damask and tapestry of Chinese figures, which is extremely pretty. The dressing room and the room beyond it are both furnished with green. In every room on this floor there are one or two tables of the finest marble, granite or porphyry, and also very much ornamented with antique statues and bustos, particularly in the left hand blue velvet drawing-room is a most beautiful statue of Minerva about two feet high, the head, feet and hands of jet and the drapery of transparent agate. Up one pair of stairs over the saloon is a large anteroom in which are two very fine tables of the black and white Arabian granite and two others of the yellow marble veined with red. There are four apartments on this floor consisting of a bed-chamber and dressing room. Lord and Lady's own apartment is in the wing and newly fitted up, there are in it three very fine cabinets and in my Lady's dressing room are several views of Venice. Below stairs are a great quantity of statues, bustos, tables, etc. that are not yet disposed on.

Dined at the inn by the house and in the afternoon returned to York.

April 28, Sunday.—Went to the Cathedral at York and heard a sermon from the Archbishop, after service went to see the monuments and other curiosities of the Church. The Archbishop and Dr. Osbaldeston, the Dean, came to pay their compliments to my Lady.

April 29, Monday.—Set out from York, came by Mr. Boucher's park pale and by Mr. Ward's, left Myton, the seat of Sir Miles Stapleton, on our right hand, and came through a disagreeable moorish country to Helperby, a small village where Mr. York of Richmond has a house, from thence by Newby Hall the seat of Sir Tancred Robinson, an extremely pretty place, and through a little village called Rainton. Passed the river Swale over a very fine bridge and soon after the river Yewer (Ure), and so to Ripon twenty-six miles, the "Unicorn" a very good inn. In the afternoon went to see Studley the seat of Mr. Aislaby, the house old and intended to be rebuilt. The park very fine having a river running through it and great variety of ground with hanging woods and rocks, and a most beautiful view of Ripon town and Minster from the grand avenue. There are several buildings in the gardens and a Chinese house now building in the park. In the evening returned to Ripon.

April 30, Tuesday.—Went to see Ripon Minster, a good church with some good old monuments. Went from thence through Wath, where Sir Reginald Graham has a seat, so through Cowthorp to Bedale, a pretty market town, nine miles, dined at the "Swan," a tolerable inn. Went to see Mr. Peirce's house, which is an old one lately repaired, and a new room added to it of fifty six feet by twenty six, which is extremely well fitted up with stucco.

In the afternoon came three miles to Hornby Castle, a seat of the Earl of Holderness, a very fine old place now new painting and repairing, there are several good apartments and the rooms of a good size. From thence passed the river Swale again and came by the side of it through a fine country to Richmond five miles, a pretty market town situated very romantically on the top of a hill. Lay at the "King's Head," a tolerable inn. Mr. Yorke, their representative, has a good house here with hanging gardens on the side of the hill.

May 1, Wednesday.—Went one mile from Richmond to Usk Hall, the seat of Sir Conyers Darcy, a very agreeable situation on the side of a hill. The house a good one and elegantly furnished, the hall is forty six feet by twenty four and fitted up with stucco, out of that (through a little paved room that leads to the garden) you come into the common dining-room, in which are four whole length pictures of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, Lord Scarbrough and Lady Essex, through that the drawing-room, on the other side is Sir Conyers' own apartment. Above stairs is a large dining-room, on the right hand a bed-chamber and dressing-room, and on the left a gallery in which are the pictures of the late King, Lord Byron, Lady Ancram, Mrs. Vernon, and the late Lord Holderness, and beyond that a very good bed-chamber and dressing-room furnished with green damask. From thence five miles to Stanwick, a seat of Sir Hugh Smithson's, in our way met Mr. Shuttleworth, who has an extremely pretty house and place just by called Fosset. Sir Hugh's is a very pretty house, the staircase is fitted up with painting, stucco, and gilding in a very pretty taste, the best apartments are all up one pair of stairs. From thence two miles to Pierce bridge where we crossed the river Tees and went on a high cliff by the side of it two miles to Coniscliff, a village belonging to the

Duke of Devonshire, thence four miles through Blackwell to Darlington in the bishopric of Durham. Mr. Stephenson's, the "King's Head," a good inn. This is a pretty market town and much improved within these few years by their manufacture of huckaback, of which Lady Oxford presented me with a piece.

May 2, Thursday.—Went from thence by Walworth Castle the seat of Mr. Jennison, and through Somerhouse, Killerby, Ingleton and Stainthorp, a small market town, nine miles to Raby Castle the seat of Henry Vane, Esquire, a very fine old place now repairing and beautifying, the hall is thirty-six yards long, thirty-six feet broad and thirty-six feet high, the park a very small one. Thence five miles through West Auckland, a very pretty village, where Sir Robert Eden has a seat, to Bishop-Auckland, dined and lay at the "Talbot," a very indifferent inn. In the afternoon went to see the Bishop's Palace, a fine old building but very much out of repair, the chapel a very good one and finely fitted up by Bishop Cosins, but nothing done to any part of it since his time; there is a very large dining-room upstairs and there has been a very long gallery but great part of it is now converted into bed-chambers. The park though small is very pretty, having a fine hill and rock and a river running through it. Out of the windows of the Palace is a pretty view of Binstead, the seat of Mr. Wren, and of Newton, the seat of Mr. Bacon, both good situations.

May 3, Friday.—Came from Bishop Auckland seven miles to Durham to the "Red Lion," an exceeding good and clean inn. In our way came by a seat of Mr. Salvin's, a very pretty place by the Wear side, with good gardens and is remarkable for early fruit. Went to the Bishop's Palace, which stands on a very high hill and might be made a very fine place, but at present wants a great deal of repair. Went to Bishop Cosin's Library, there are a good collection of books but no care taken either of them or the room, which seems to be in some danger of falling. From thence to the Cathedral, which is now cleaning and repairing, here are a great many rich copes which were worn by the monks and are now worn by the Prebendaries of Durham. Went to see the public library, which seems to be very well kept, here are preserved several Roman antiquities, as inscriptions, &c., that have been found in this county.

May 4, Saturday.—Came from Durham six miles to Lumley Castle, the seat of James Lumley, Esquire, a very fine situation on a little hill by the river Wear. Everything here is in perfect repair and the inside is now fitting up and beautifying by the present owner. In the hall, which is a very good one, are the pictures of the family from the time of William the Conqueror downwards, out of that is a great dining-room highly finished with stucco, fifty-one feet long, twenty-four feet broad and twenty-four feet high. Out of that is a withdrawing room, bed-chamber and dressing room, none of which are yet furnished. There are several other apartments on this floor wherein are some fine old original pictures; upstairs there are some fine rooms fitting up but none of them finished and below are very good offices and conveniences of all sorts for servants. From thence to their parish church of Chester-in-the-street, where all the Lumley family are buried and there are monuments from the first of the family downwards. Mr. Headworth, the member for the county, lives in this village, and Mr. Lambton

in the parish. From thence six miles to Newcastle upon Tyne, a town of great trade and riches. Dined and lay at the "Reindeer," a very dirty house.

May 5, Sunday.—Went to St. Nicholas' Church and after service to see Mr. Blackett's house in Pilgrim Street, a good comfortable house and stands airy; in this street are several other good houses. After dinner Lady Oxford went to see her colliery at Jesmond and after that drove round the town by the walls.

May 6, Monday.—Came from Newcastle twelve miles to Morpeth in Northumberland, by Mr. White's of Blagden, and by the ruins of Ogle Castle belonging to Lady Oxford, formerly a very fine place. Mr. White and Mr. Bulman dined with us at the "King of Sweden's Head." In the afternoon drank tea with Mrs. Bulman.

May 7, Tuesday.—Went to Bothall Castle belonging to Lady Oxford, now in ruins but formerly stood on a great deal of ground and was a very fine place; the church is near it and is neatly repaired. Went through Pegswood and Longhirst and several other parishes in her Ladyship's estate, and then returned to Morpeth.

May 8, Wednesday.—Went from Morpeth through another part of Lady Oxford's estate for some miles, and then came into the great road and down a steep hill to Fenton, a pretty village where we crossed the river Caucot, saw at a small distance a pretty house belonging to Mr. Witherington, and thence by Newton on the Moor eighteen miles to Alnwick to the "Black Swan," a very good inn; went to see the Castle, an old seat of the Duke of Somerset's, now very much in ruins but formerly a place of great strength and very large.

May 9, Thursday.—Passed the River Alne over a very good bridge and through Charlton and Warnford, two small villages, thirteen miles to Belford, a little village near the sea, dined here at a little dirty house and in the afternoon went by Buckton and through Haggerston, where Sir Carnaby Haggerston has a good seat and great estate, fourteen miles to Berwick-on-Tweed, over which is a very fine bridge; a great salmon fishery at this place.

May 10, Friday.—Went from Berwick about two miles debateable ground and then entered Scotland, passed over the Earl of Marchmont's estate, to Ayton, a small village on the river Ay, the Laird of Fordyce has a pretty place here and a good estate, left a house and estate of a Mr. Renton on our left hand and came through part of Sir John Hume's estate, saw on our left hand Dunglass, the seat of Sir John Hall, a very pretty place and plantations. Thence to Alkermes (?) a small village and so to the Pyes, two very sharp rocks by the sea-side, had a view of the Bass, a very steep rock in the sea almost inaccessible on all sides except by one narrow passage, it was formerly a fortified place but now its principal inhabitants are the Soland geese. About two miles from the shore left Berwickshire and entered East Lothian, went upon a very high cliff of the rock and by Skate Row and through the estate of Sir John Nisbet of Dirleton, passed by on our left hand, New Barns, a house belonging to the Duke of Roxburgh and on our right by another very pretty seat and park belonging to his Grace, called Broxmouth, about a mile from Dunbar and bounded on one side by the sea. A little farther on our right hand left Lochend, a seat of Sir John Warrington's, thence by Boorhouses twenty two miles to

Beltonford, dined at the "White Lion," a very tolerable house. In the afternoon passed by Tenningham, a seat of the Earl of Haddington's, it appears to be a very good house and fine plantations about it. From thence passed by the Laird's of Sineaton, a small house but the plantations prettily laid out, saw on our right hand a seat of Sir John Beard's and a village called Linton. A little farther passed by the ruins of old Hales Castle and by Binstoun, Mr. Crokat's, and by New-Mills belonging to Mr. Charters Weems, and by Stephenson, Sir Robert Sinclair's. Six miles to Haddington, lay at Mr. Macally's, a very dirty inn. The church here has been a very good building but all the chancel is destroyed, there are several good monuments both in the church and churchyard, but are taken no care of. The families of Lauderdale and Hay have vaults here.

May 11, Saturday.—Set out from Haddington, went by Latha, Mr. Bohun's, and through Trenante and Dowghistoun to Pinkey, a seat of the Marquis of Tweeddale's; it has been a pretty place, there are some good rooms and a gallery, but seems at present to be much neglected. Thence to Smeeton, a very pretty park and house delightfully situated belonging to the Duke of Buccleuch, kept in good repair and very clean. In the hall is a whole length picture of his Grace and a half length of the Duke of Queensberry; there are several good rooms here and some family pictures, mostly copies. Thence to Dalkeith, the park of which is joined to Smeeton Park by an avenue, the house built by the late Duchess of Monmouth after the model of King William's house at Loo. The hall a very good one, on the left hand of it is a very good apartment and on the right two state apartments. In the dining-room is a picture of the Duchess of Monmouth and her two sons in one piece and a half length of Lady Delorain, from thence through a drawing-room, bed-chamber, dressing-room, closet and cabinet, the furniture all very rich and though old extremely clean. The closet and cabinet are fitted up with little pictures and china and a great deal of looking glass. In the cabinet is an original picture of Anne Bullen by Holbein. Out of the hall is the staircase which is very large, and elegantly supported by pillars of marble and the steps walnut tree inlaid. At the top of the stairs is a fine picture of the Duke of Monmouth on horseback by Sir Peter Lely. From thence you enter a fine room forty nine feet long, and twenty five broad wherein are several very good pictures mostly whole lengths, amongst which is King James the Second's Queen; Queen Mary, Queen Anne, the Duchesses of Ormond, Cleveland, Marlborough, Montague and Monmouth, the Duke of Monmouth's mother, Lady Ranelagh, Lady Sunderland and the Duke of Buccleuch's three sisters. Three very good apartments on this floor the same as below. The whole house well wainscotted with oak and a great deal of good marble in it. The house stands low and near the town of Dalkeith, no gardens but for use. From thence came through Musselburgh and over the sand to Edinburgh, dined at Mrs. Walker's, an exceeding good and clean tavern. In the afternoon went to our lodgings at Mrs. Urquhart's by the Cross, up two pair of stairs, very good lodgings.

May 12, Sunday.—Lady Oxford went to Lady Leven and went with her to the Kirk, heard a lecture and a preaching from a Highland man. Dined with the Lord Commissioner, a very fine dinner, the first course fifteen, the second course eighteen, and the dessert thirty dishes.

Went to the Kirk again in the afternoon and then came home. My Lady visited by Lady Glenorchy, Lady Mary Creyton, Mr. and Mrs. Hope.

May 13, Monday.—Dined again at Lord High Commissioner's, the same number of dishes as the day before. In the afternoon my Lady was visited by Lord and Lady Hopetoun, Lord Desford, Lady Somerville, Lady Glenorchy, and Mrs. Hope.

May 14, Tuesday.—Went to Hope Park and to see Holyrood House, the King's Palace. The State apartments are very fine rooms but extremely out of repair. Duke Hamilton lives in the Queen's apartment, which is very well kept. Lord Breadalbane's lodgings are over them and are very fine rooms and extremely well furnished and command a fine view of the sea. Dined with Lady Glenorchy, a very elegant dinner. In the afternoon went to Mrs. Hope and Lady Leven, and afterwards saw Lord and Lady Elibank and Miss Murray.

May 15, Wednesday.—Went from Edinburgh four miles to Drum the seat of Lord Somerville, a good situation and pretty house seems only to want water, the building not quite finished. From thence three miles by a seat and park of Lord Ross, to Newbottle the Marquis of Lothian's, a very fine old place but much out of repair. In the great dining-room are a vast number of portraits some of which are very fine, particularly one of Prince Henry and one of Sir Philip Sidney. From thence returned by New Hales and Musselburgh to Edinburgh. In the afternoon Lord and Lady Elibank and two Miss Murrays, Lord and Lady Leven and Lady Anne Lesley, Lady Glenorchy, Lady Somerville, Lady Mary Creyton, and Lord Erskine came to wait on Lady Oxford.

May 16, Thursday.—Set out from Edinburgh, went by Newlaston, a seat of Lord Stair's, to Hopetoun House nine miles, the seat of Lord Hopetoun, a very fine and large freestone house situated on a hill above the Firth of Forth, of which there are views from several of the windows. Here are a great many valuable pictures and bustos but are not yet put in order, the house being not quite finished. In the library a lump of lead of my Lord's mines 10,000lbs. weight.

May 17, Friday.—Went to see the gardens, which are disposed in a very elegant and grand manner, being bounded by the sea and most of the views are terminated by fine objects on the opposite shore in the shire of Fife. About the gardens and about all the grounds are very beautiful plantations of firs. Both this day and yesterday had fine dinners of three courses and a dessert, and suppers one course and dessert.

May 18, Saturday.—Set out from Hopetoun House and went four miles to Linlithgow the shire town, and from thence through Falkirk fourteen miles to Stirling in Stirlingshire, dined at the "Duke of Perth's Arms," a very good inn. In the afternoon passed the Firth by Stirling bridge and went five miles by the bottom of the hills to Alloa in Clackmannanshire, the seat of Lord Erskine, at present the house is but indifferent, but there was a great plan begun by Lord Mar for making it a very fine place.

May 19, Sunday.—Went home from Alloa by Dumblane, a very pretty town and over the Brig of Ardor, and by Auctor-Ardor to the

water of Airne, which with some difficulty we ferried over and so came to Dupplin the seat of Lord Kinnoull, twenty six miles.

May 20, Monday.—Went from thence three miles to Perth in Perthshire, a very pretty town and well situated, near it is a very large plantation of firs belonging to the town. Returned to Dupplin to dinner, went to see the plantations about which are very pretty. The house is a very good one and stands pleasantly above the river, and close behind it is a natural cascade through the rock.

May 21, Tuesday.—Went from thence by Bagony, the seat of Mr. Graham, three miles, and by Abercarnia, Mr. Murray's, and by a house of Lord John Drummond's, and by Cromlix, belonging to Mr. Drummond, and by a fine seat and plantations of the Duke of Perth's, and by a seat of Lord Monee's to Crieff eight miles. Thence by the Brig of Mackally and through a little village to the Brig of Ardor, and through Dunblane and by Mr. Stirling's of Keir to Stirling twenty-six miles, dined and supped there and met Lord and Lady Erskine and Miss Elphinston.

May 22, Wednesday.—Went by Mr. Stirling's of Harbordshire, and by Denny bridge and Denny fourteen miles to Kilsythe, where Mr. Campbell of Shawfield has a house. Thence in the afternoon nine miles to Glasgow in the shire of Clydesdale. Lay at Mr. Buchanan's, a merchant.

May 23, Thursday.—Went to see the city of Glasgow, which is very prettily situated on the river Clyde, the streets broad and clean and good stone buildings. Saw the linen and jute manufactures and went to the University, which consists of two small quadrangles built in the time of King James I. Here is a small but pretty library built mostly at the expense of the late Duke of Chandos. Went to the Cathedral, which has been a fine one; the outside is still perfect, but within in a very bad condition.

May 24, Friday.—Passed the river Clyde and went by the side of it and by the ruins of Bothwell Castle, and passed over it again at Bothwell bridge, and so to Hamilton eight miles, the seat of the Duke of Hamilton, a fine house, the whole middle of the front is taken up in a gallery in which are a great many good pictures, particularly the Story of Daniel by Rubens, and the Treaty of Peace between Queen Elizabeth and Spain, and three pictures by Titian of the Disciples at Emmaus, the Taking from the Cross, and the Interment. There is a very good apartment in one wing, of a dining-room, drawing-room and bedchamber, and dressing-room and closet, all furnished with crimson damask. In the dressing-room a great many pictures, amongst which is one enamel of the Duke of Buckingham by Petitot and an original of Mary, Queen of Scots and Catharine Parr. In the park is a very pretty building, one wing being an apartment for the Duke and the other a dog kennel; the park is eleven miles round and is finely watered by the river Avon. Dined and lay at David Murray's, a very good inn.

May 25, Saturday.—Came by a pretty wood belonging to Mr. Dalzeel, and by Washry, Mr. Hamilton's, and by Sir James Stewart's of Glass and Mr. Wiers of Stone Biers by Carnwath to Biggar eighteen miles (very dirty house) in the shire of Lanark.

May 26, Sunday.—Came from Biggar and by the Tweedside nine miles to the Crook, a lone house in the shire of Tweeddale. In the afternoon came from thence six miles further on the sides of the hills by the Tweed and then crossed Errickstone a very high hill, and passed the river Annan and entered the shire of Annandale and so to Moffat six miles, lay at John Graham's. At this place is a Spa, not unlike in the taste to Harrogate waters in Yorkshire.

May 27, Monday.—Came by a seat of Lord Stormont's and by Sir John Douglas's, and by a seat (now in ruins) of the Marquis of Annandale's, twelve miles to Annan. Dined there at a very dirty house. In the afternoon passed the rivers Kirkcaldy, Sark and Esk and came to Carlisle, twelve miles, a very pretty city, pleasantly situated on the river Eden and is surrounded with a wall three yards broad, the Castle formerly a very strong one belongs to the Duke of Portland. Lay at the "King's Arms," a good inn.

May 29, Wednesday.—Went to the Cathedral, which is very small and in bad repair and affords very few antiquities.

May 30, Thursday.—Went from thence through Warwick the seat of Mr. Warwick, a very pretty place by the side of the river Eden, to Corby Castle, the seat of Mr. Howard, a most delightful situation on the same river, went from thence by a good road to Penrith in Cumberland, a pretty market town. A very good church built in 1723, some old broken monuments in the inside, the galleries are supported by twenty columns of curious red stone eleven feet high all of one stone dug at Crawd Undell nigh Nivite in Cumberland (*sic*).

May 31, Friday.—Went over Eden and Lowther and through a bad country by Lord Lonsdale's park to Shap, a little village, and from thence (by the help of a good guide) over the mountainous fells to Kendal, a pretty market town in Westmorland, situated on the river Ken. A good trade here in the woollen manufacture and other things, the Castle quite in ruins. The "King's Arms" a good inn.

June 1, Saturday.—Came three miles to Sizergh, a pretty place belonging to Mr. Strickland, a Roman Catholic gentleman, the house built by Catherine Parr and came into this family by an ancestor of theirs marrying her niece; from thence one mile to Levens, a seat of the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, a good old house, and park well wooded and watered. From thence two miles to Dalham Tower, Mr. Wilson's, knight of the shire for Westmorland, a good new built house, the gardens very pretty and a good view of the sea, from thence fourteen miles to Lancaster to the "Sun," a good Inn. The Castle is still remaining, wherein is the prison for the county and where both judges sit. Here is a large commodious church finely situated, the town very pleasant and ships of burthen can come close to it.

June 2, Sunday.—Went to church and afterwards drove about the town.

June 3, Monday.—Came from thence through Garstang twenty miles to Preston in Lancashire, to the "Black Bull," an excellent inn. Preston is a very clean pleasant town, consisting of two large streets wherein many of the neighbouring gentry have good winter houses; the church very mean.

June 4, Tuesday.—Came from thence sixteen miles by the seat of Sir Roger Bradshaw, a good old house and wood in a very pretty situation, one mile to Wigan, a small market town, dined at the "Eagle and Child," a good inn. In the afternoon came fourteen miles bad road to Manchester to the "Bull Head," a good inn.

June 5, Wednesday.—Saw the town, in which are several good houses belonging to the Manchester traders. The old church is a fine Gothic building, the choir made use of by the College of Manchester in which is cathedral service twice a day. In the College is a good library endowed with 100*l.* per annum for the purchase of books, the legacy of Mr. Chetham of Castleton, with a foundation of sixty poor boys, who are fed, clothed, taught, and put out at the expense of the College; the Wardenship worth 400*l.* per annum. The new church, which is a very neat building, was erected 1723. Mr. Reynolds' and Sir John Bland's seats near the town.

June 6, Thursday.—Came by Stopford (Stockport?) a pretty market town in Cheshire noted for the trade of thread-buttons, passed by Lyme Hall a fine old seat and park belonging to Mr. Leigh, sixteen miles to Buxton Wells in Derbyshire kept by Mr. Taylor. The wells are the property of the Duke of Devonshire, the Lady Oxford owns the tithes and is Lady of the High Peak. Here we saw Mr. Bromley and his sister, Mrs. Milner, and Sir Rowland Wynne and supped about thirty in number at the public ordinary.

May 7, Friday.—Came thirty six miles over the moors, through Castleton, saw Peak Hole, a most stupendous cavern, thence through Hope a small market town and over Milstone Edge, a prodigious high hill, and thence a bad road to Sheffield, where Lady Oxford was so good as to present us with some coal ware. The "Rose and Crown" a good inn.

May 8, Saturday.—Came through Aston Park, Lord Holderness's and through Kiveton Park, the Duke of Leeds's, eighteen miles to Welbeck.

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p. 341, *first entry ; for [17] 73 read [16] 73.*

p. 342, *line 5 ; for Henry read Heneage.*

p. 394, *line 14 ; for Vernalti read Vernatti.*

p. 514, *fifth entry ; for 1593 read 1693.*

p. 597, *line 31 ; omit comma after Cantred*

Ibid., *line 35 ; insert comma after Ugra*

p. 604, *line 9 ; for Sir John read St. John*

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p. 413, *line 23 ; for Wilts read Wells.*

p. 483, *line 10 ; for Leicester read Lemster.*

p. 575, *5 lines from bottom . for Skerrin read Ikerrin*

p. 622, *line 2 ; for one read our*

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p. 565, *6 lines from bottom ; for announcing read renouncing.*

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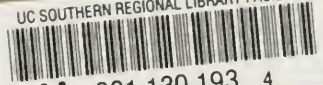
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